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FURTHER REACTION TO GROMYKO PRESS CONFERENCE

PM060831 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS roundup: "High Assessment of USSR's Policy"]

[Text] The Soviet Union's principled stance on questions of peace and international security set forth at the press conference given by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR foreign minister, is the focus of world public attention. Foreign press commentaries note in particular that President Reagan's so-called "interim option" for missiles is unacceptable to the Soviet Union for three reasons. First, it fails to take into account the British and French medium-range nuclear weapons; second, it fails to take into consideration many hundreds of U.S. aircraft carrying nuclear weapons based in West Europe and on aircraft carriers; and third, according to Reagan's plan, the Soviet missiles in the Asian part of the USSR would be subject to elimination, although they have nothing to do with Europe. Mass media reports commenting on the Moscow press conference stress that the USSR's policy is a policy of peace, friendship among the peoples and noninterference in the internal affairs of other states; it is a policy aimed at the relaxation of tension in the world and at reversing the senseless arms race.

"The Soviet foreign minister called President Reagan's 'interim option' a total absurdity," was how the U.S. NBC television company began its news program. "During the press conference A.A. Gromyko stated that the Reagan administration was preparing for a nuclear war in which hundreds of millions of people could die. The Soviet minister also expressed solidarity with the anti-nuclear movements in the United States and West Europe, stating that the Soviet Union can understand the motives of those taking part." Another U.S. television company, CBS, points out in a report that the Soviet Union considers Reagan's new proposals to be totally unacceptable since they assure the West a big advantage over the Soviet Union. "The USSR foreign minister has left enough opportunities for continuing negotiations," the CNN television company comments on the Moscow press conference.

AP reports that President R. Reagan, who is in California, has been given a written account from the National Security Council of A.A. Gromyko's press conference. Continuing its line toward wrecking agreements with the Soviet Union at the Geneva talks, the U.S. State Department has published a statement reiterating the provisions of Reagan's so-called "interim option" which has been subjected to reasoned criticism from the USSR. In particular it emerges from the statement that Washington continues to have no intention of counting at these negotiations either the British or the French medium-range nuclear weapons or the many hundreds of U.S. aircraft carrying nuclear weapons and based in West Europe but intends to insist on the elimination of the Soviet medium-range missiles in the Asian part of the USSR.

It has been officially announced that the U.S. delegation will come out with these absurd proposals, deliberately unacceptable to the Soviet Union, at the next round of the Geneva talks to be resumed on 17 May. At the same time it emerges from the State Department's statement that irrespective of the course of the Geneva talks the United States intends come what may to seek a start to the deployment of the cruise missiles and Pershing II missiles in West Europe by the end of this year.

H.D. Genscher, FRG federal vice chancellor and foreign minister, and British Foreign Secretary F. Pym also spoke in a spirit in keeping with the State Department statement. They argued in favor of Reagan's "interim option," inclining toward deploying the U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe.

The French communist newspaper L'HUMANITE writes: "The press conference in Moscow justly criticized the conspiracy of silence with which the West surrounds all the peace proposals emanating from the Soviet Union. This silence is open support for militarism."

A.A. Gromyko's speech, couched in a calm, balanced tone, contained a well reasoned explanation of the Soviet Union's stance on nuclear missile problems, the Italian newspaper CORRIERE DELLA SERA notes.

While describing the proposals contained in Reagan's "interim option" as "unacceptable," A.A. Gromyko has left the door open for further talks, the British newspaper THE OBSERVER notes.

Reagan's "interim option" is a sidestepping maneuver to attain an old objective -- the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in West Europe, the Austrian newspaper VOLKSSTIMME points out.

All the Japanese newspapers report the Moscow press conference extensively. Pointing to "the flexibility of Moscow's position," MAINICHI notes: "The USSR is displaying a desire to continue talks with the United States." Touching on A.A. Gromyko's words that "Japan and the waters surrounding Japan are bristling with nuclear weapons and corresponding delivery vehicles," the newspaper ASAHI writes: "This statement is a reflection of the USSR's intensified caution with respect to the consolidation of Japanese-U.S. ties since Nakasone came to power and the ensuing buildup of Japan's military might. The Soviet Union regards Japan as the bridgehead of 'the anti-Soviet bloc in the Far East.'"

The press conference has generated tremendous interest in the socialist community countries. "Its aim," a Polish television commentary notes, "was not only the official presentation of the Soviet stance with respect to the U.S. President's recent statements but also a detailed explanation of the Soviet Government's peace initiatives and proposals which the West either keeps completely quiet about or presents in a distorted form."

All sane people on our planet will agree that the United States has no right to speak of the defense of lofty moral values in connection with the foreign policy activity of its government, which is engaged in preparing a nuclear war which would be a catastrophe for world civilization, the Cuban agency PRENSA LATINA reports.

The Soviet Union's stance is pervaded with genuine concern for the fate of peace, Mongolia's MONTSAME agency notes. It is a real embodiment of the Soviet Union's high degree of responsibility in its approach toward problems of war and peace which, to our great regret is not characteristic of the U.S. leaders.

The Chinese newspaper RENMIN RIBAO has published under the heading "A.A. Gromyko on Sino-Soviet Consultation" a XINHUA report from Moscow. It says: A.A. Gromyko, answering a question about the Soviet-Chinese consultations, said "consultations have begun between China and the Soviet Union. Many questions are the subject of the consultations."

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They have not gotten far enough to draw definite conclusions, especially so on major issues." A.A. Gromyko said: "The atmosphere during the consultations has as a whole been normal. The consultations will be continued. We believe that it is a good thing that they have been initiated and good thing that they will be continued. We will wait and see what happens next. We are in favor of normal relations with China."

The Soviet Union resolutely warned the United States and Israel of the dangerous consequences of the game they are playing in the Near East, Kuwait's KUNA agency notes.

The Soviet minister exposed Washington's formula of "the defense of U.S. interests," the Indian newspaper THE HINDUSTAN TIMES points out. The newspaper THE TIMES OF INDIA notes the balanced but at the same time firm tone of A.A. Gromyko's statement. The newspaper PATRIOT writes: "Everything the USSR foreign minister said at the Moscow press conference attests that Soviet policy is a policy of peace."

WARSAW PACT FOREIGN MINISTERS ISSUE COMMUNIQUE

LD071406 Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Prague April 7 TASS -- Follows the text of the communique of the meeting of the Committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Warsaw Treaty member countries.

A regular meeting of the Committee of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the countries participating in the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, took place in Prague on April 6-7, 1983.

The meeting was attended by Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Frigyes Puja, minister of foreign affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic, Oskar Fischer, minister of foreign affairs of the German Democratic Republic, Stefan Olszowski, minister of foreign affairs of the Polish People's Republic, Stefan Andrei, minister of foreign affairs of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Andrey Gromyko, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and Bohuslav Chnoupek, minister of foreign affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Participants in the meeting exchanged opinion and information on the development of the situation in Europe, in the broader context of the overall world situation, during the period since the Prague meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member countries.

They examined questions related to the implementation of the proposals and initiatives put forward by the Political Consultative Committee with a view to averting nuclear war, carrying on and augmenting the process of detente, resolving disarmament problems, strengthening security and developing cooperation in the European Continent and in the world at large.

1. It was pointed out during the exchange of views that the developments are confirming in full that the evaluations of the international situation given in the Prague Political Declaration are well-founded and imparting still greater urgency to the proposals formulated in it. These proposals have been appreciated in the world as a realistic alternative to nuclear catastrophe and a call for extensive international cooperation for the sake of preserving life on earth.

The participants in the meeting stressed the importance of the conclusion, drawn by the Prague meeting of the Political Consultative Committee, that the prevention of war depended first and foremost on the cooperation, cohesion and purposefulness of the forces of peace, which today are stronger than the forces of war. They noted that these activities were becoming ever more energetic. An important contribution in this field was made by the 7th Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi.

It was stressed at the same time that the international situation remained complex and tense. There is a further escalation of imperialist policy, first and foremost the policy of American imperialism, the policy of strength and confrontation, of encroachment of the national independence and sovereignty of states, of the consolidation and recarving of "spheres of influence", of the extension of old conflicts and incitement of new ones. The continued build-up of armaments is fraught with serious consequences and particular danger is posed by the new round of the nuclear arms race. The economic crisis, gripping many states, is growing worse. The gap between the economic development levels of countries is widening and obstacles to bridging it are becoming larger.

The states represented at the meeting drew attention to the adverse effects of the resurgence of revanchist tendencies in West Germany on the political climate, detente and cooperation in Europe. It was stressed that unconditional respect for the territorial and political realities of today's Europe is a fundamental factor of peace and security in the continent as a whole.

The states represented at the meeting believe, in the light of the emerging situation, that it is the duty of all countries to contribute in every way towards stemming the present dangerous course of developments and directing them towards detente and mutually beneficial cooperation, finding solutions to urgent problems of limiting and reducing armaments, particularly nuclear weapons, and achieving a peaceful settlement of conflict situations. In this context the participants in the meeting stressed the primacy of the continuation and extension of state-to-state political dialogue at all levels on the more urgent European and other international problems. They examined, under instructions from the Political Consultative Committee, further steps aimed at advancing the proposals and initiatives contained in the Prague Political Declaration and practical measures related to the talks with the member countries of the North Atlantic alliance and other states on basic problems of strengthening peace and promoting disarmament and security in Europe and all over the world.

2. Special attention was attached at the meeting to measures to prevent the escalation of the nuclear arms race in the European Continent, which is fraught with dangerous consequences for the situation in Europe and which enhances the threat of war. This problem is becoming all the more urgent and acute since there is still no progress at the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe while preparations are unfolding for the deployment of new American medium-range missiles in Western Europe already at the end of this year.

The Warsaw Treaty member countries for their part reiterated the striving for the complete ridding of Europe from nuclear weapons, both medium-range and tactical, and their readiness to contribute towards the achievement of this solution. They firmly declare themselves in favour of a radical reduction in medium-range nuclear systems in Europe on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security as a major step in this direction.

They make a reminder in this context of their proposals formulated in the Prague Political Declaration, particularly of the Soviet proposals of December 21, 1982, and expect an answer in a constructive spirit so that positive agreements should be reached at the Geneva talks. The problem of medium-range nuclear systems in Europe should be resolved in a way precluding the deployment of new American medium-range missiles and ensuring the maintenance of military-strategic parity at increasingly lower levels.

3. The ministers examined questions of the further steps to implement the major joint initiative put forward in the Prague Political Declaration, the conclusion of a treaty on the mutual non-use of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace between the states participating in the Warsaw Treaty and the member states of the North Atlantic alliance that would be open for signature to all the other countries.

They noted that this proposal, as the contacts and consultations their countries had had with other states had shown, had attracted great attention in many countries of the world, both at the level of governments and in the public and political circles.

The participants in the meeting took note of the intention of the member countries of the North Atlantic alliance, to whom the proposed treaty is addressed first and foremost, to study that proposal. They expressed the hope that these countries would take a constructive attitude to concluding such a treaty.

For their part the states represented at the meeting confirm their readiness to contribute in every way to the examination of their proposal and to develop exchanges of views on its different aspects with all the interested countries. This concerns, in particular, such questions as the substance and scope of possible commitments under the treaty, their correlation with the commitments under the U.N. Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, and other bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements, and also cooperation in ensuring compliance with the commitments under the treaty.

For this purpose the participants in the meeting believe it useful and desirable to continue bilateral contacts with the member states of the North Atlantic alliance and other countries, also bearing in mind the possibility of examining appropriate questions on a multilateral basis at the level and in the forms acceptable to all.

4. The participants also exchanged views on the ways and means of implementing the proposal, formulated in the Prague Political Declaration, to begin as early as possible direct talks between the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and the NATO member countries on the non-increase of military spending and its eventual reduction in per cent or in absolute terms. The participants in the meeting spoke in favour of achieving such an agreement.

The conviction was confirmed that the solution of this question would effectively facilitate the ending of the arms race and transition to disarmament while the thus freed means could be used for needs of social and economic development, including of developing countries.

The participants in the meeting stressed that in conditions of the growing international tension it is especially important for their call to be received positively by the NATO member countries and for the talks on the non-increase and reduction of military spending to commence without any further delay.

5. In connection with the talks in Vienna the participants in the meeting confirmed the position of their states as regards the need of implementing effective measures to reduce armed forces and armaments in central Europe, and also their readiness, in accordance with the task set in the Prague Political Declaration, for the speediest attainment of agreement on this score.

They recalled the proposals of their countries directed at the substantial reduction of armed forces and armaments in that area, including the February 17, 1983 proposal of socialist states - direct participants in the talks based on the new approach under which the absence of agreement on the present numerical strength of the troops of the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO in central Europe would not impede the attainment of agreement on such a reduction.

The hope was expressed at the meeting that these efforts will pave the road to a real lessening of military tension in the continent and that with the active cooperation of all participants in the talks it will be possible to achieve success at them in the nearest future.

6. The participants in the meeting noted that the initiative set forth in the Prague Political Declaration concerning the freeing of Europe from chemical weapons has aroused interest and response in many European countries. Their states hold as before that the banning and destruction of chemical weapons on a world scale, talks on which are being conducted at the Disarmament Committee in Geneva, would be a radical solution of the problem of preventing chemical war. At the same time it would be useful to take parallel steps leading to the same aim within the limits of the European Continent.

The states represented at the meeting are ready to enter business contacts with other interested states to jointly study practical questions connected with the task of freeing Europe from chemical weapons, in particular such as the volume and consecutiveness of the relevant measures, the content of commitments and verification of compliance with them.

7. The participants in the meeting hold that the creation in various parts of the European Continent, including in the north of Europe and in the Balkans, of nuclear-free zones would be an effective factor of freeing it from the nuclear threat. Going in this direction also is the proposal to create a zone free from battlefield nuclear weapons in that part of Europe where the concentration of armed forces and armaments is particularly great. The participants in the meeting noted the growing interest of the European peoples in the proposals related to the creation of nuclear-free zones and declared in favour of conducting appropriate talks between the interested sides.

8. During the discussion of the state of affairs at the Madrid follow-up meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the ministers specially pointed out the need to concentrate all efforts at the present responsible phase of the Madrid meeting on finalising as soon as possible the coordination of a substantive and balanced final document. Concerning the concrete contents of such a document it was emphasized that the states represented at the committee's meeting will continue to proceed from their constructive position as it is set out in the Prague Political Declaration.

The participants in the committee's meeting expressed an opinion that possibilities now exist for successfully completing the work to coordinate a final document of the Madrid meeting, including the question of convening a conference on confidence-building measures and on security and disarmament in Europe. In this connection they exchanged considerations concerning the renewed draft final document tabled by the neutral and non-aligned states on March 15, 1983.

They confirmed the position of their countries in favour of holding in Bucharest the next follow-up meeting of the European conference. In case of successful completion of the work to coordinate a final document of the Madrid follow-up meeting, the states represented at the committee's meeting would be ready to positively consider a proposal by some participants in the meeting on adopting it at foreign ministers' level.

A firm conviction was expressed that in Europe all necessary prerequisites remain for the states and peoples of the continent to live under the conditions of peace, security and cooperation. This depends, first of all, on the efforts of the European states themselves.

The committee's meeting passed in an atmosphere of complete mutual understanding and common striving of the states represented at it for further enhancing their efforts in the struggle for peace and relaxation of tension in Europe and the whole world. For their part, they as usual are ready to consider in a constructive spirit other states proposals directed toward these objectives.

A regular meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states is to be held in Sofia in October 1983.

ANDROPOV RESPONSE ISSUED AS OFFICIAL UN DOCUMENT

LD061800 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] New York April 6 TASS -- The answers of Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to questions of a PRAVDA correspondent, which were published on March 27, 1983, have been issued at the U.N. headquarters as an official document of the U.N. General Assembly and the Security Council.

HUNGARIAN WEEKLY INTERVIEWS USSR'S BOGOMOLOV

LD061700 Budapest in English to Europe 1100 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] The economic weekly FIGYELO carries an interview with the Soviet economist Professor Oleg Bogomolov, director of the Moscow Research Institute for World Economy. The Soviet economist, who attended a Hungarian-Soviet scientific conference in Budapest at the end of March told FIGYELO that a special interministerial committee set up 16 months ago under the auspices of the Soviet Government has been studying the economic experiences of the other socialist countries. The Soviet academician said that there was growing awareness of the need to increase the personal responsibility of economic leaders at all levels in the Soviet Union. Greater responsibility, however, must go hand in hand with an expansion of rights and more economic independence at factory level. Higher work discipline should be encouraged with the help of financial incentives.

The Soviet academician rejected any suggestion that unfavorable international conditions and economic difficulties made it impossible to proceed with economic reforms. On the contrary, Professor Bogomolov argued, constrained international conditions and urgent demands on the economy made it imperative to evolve more effective methods of economic management.

Among the international conditions Professor Bogomolov took into account was the American drive to start a new upwards spiral in the arms race in the hope that this would bring economic ruin on the socialist countries. While the socialist countries could not afford to put their defense potential at risk, they realize the need to develop and improve their systems of economic management. This, said the Soviet professor, was the only way in which the double task of maintaining defense potential and raising living standards could be accomplished.

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OPENS 7 APR

LD080551 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Monteseiro (Portugal) April 7 TASS -- The 16th congress of the Socialist International has opened here today. It is attended by delegates from many socialist and social-democratic parties from all over the world making up the Socialist International, and also by observers from different political organizations. The main questions on the agenda include present-day problems of international security, peace and disarmament, an analysis of the situation in the Middle East, and also problems of world economics.

Addressing the opening session of the Congress, Willy Brandt, chairman of the Socialist International, attached particular importance to the problems of disarmament and stressed that they were related to the solution of many problems worrying the world, including economic problems.

Having condemned the arms race, he noted that the problem of safeguarding peace has never been as acute as it is today. The arms arsenal, which has long been sufficient for multiple overkill, continues to grow, Willy Brandt said.

The possibility of nuclear catastrophe evokes the worst fears, he stressed. That is why special attention should be attached to the ongoing Geneva talks on the problems of nuclear disarmament. It is these talks that may offer the last change for putting the most dangerous weapons systems under control.

The centres of tension existing in the world, first and foremost in the Middle East, South Africa, Southeast Asia and Central America, may any moment spark off universal catastrophe, Willy Brandt stated. In conclusion he urged the socialists and social-democrats to make a contribution towards the solution of acute problems facing the world.

IMF, IBRD TOOLS OF 'IMPERIALIST EXPLOITATION'

LD062127 Moscow TASS in English 1513 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Moscow April 6 TASS -- TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

The justified criticism of the activity of the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which sounded from the lofty rostrum of the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit Conference in New Delhi, continues on pages of newspapers of developing countries. "The terms on which the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development grants loans to Ghana and other African states lead in the long run to the erosion of the living standards of broad sections of the population, to the domination of the national economy of young states by Western monopolies," writes the GHANAIAN TIMES. The Tanzanian newspaper UHURU writes: "The activity of the International Monetary Fund has a subversive nature and is aimed at the meeting of the interests of the Western imperialist circles." The leaders of these two financial organizations controlled by the USA try in every way to interfere in economic, and quite often political affairs of sovereign states.

It is the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund that are granting loans to developing countries on terms disadvantageous for them that are to blame for the fact that late in 1982 developing countries had to spend a huge sum of 131 billion dollars toward the repayment of the percentage on the credits. The matter went so far that young states have to get more loans to repay percentage on old debts. The very fact of these huge debts toward the payment of which the developing countries spend their export proceeds, thus remaining without funds for economic development, reveals and proves the irrational and unequal nature of the present world economic order.

Weakening the national economy, subjugating it to the interests of the West, the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development impose on young states the models of so-called "development" that turn them into a sort of "platforms" for the export of finished goods. The results of such "industrial development" so to say, are seen clearly from the following data. In the seventies, for every dollar re-invested in developing countries, transnational corporations took out approximately 2.2 dollars of profit to investor countries. As to U.S. transnational corporations, they invested 11,446 million dollars in 1970-1979 and took out 48,663 million dollars of profits. This means 4.25 dollars taken from the "Third World" for every new dollar invested in that period. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Monetary Fund and western transnational corporations that act at one with them are the main instrument of imperialist exploitation of developing countries.

U.S. PURSUIT OF 'MILITARY SUPERIORITY' ASSAILED

PM051241 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 2 Apr 83 p 3

["Review of Events" by political observer Genadiy Shishkin: "Washington's Sinister Policy"]

[Excerpt] No matter how impudently people in the White House distort the Soviet Union's policy, no matter what shady methods they may use for this, facts remain facts: It is the United States under Reagan, and not the Soviet Union, that has taken the hopeless road of chasing illusory military superiority. In its very first year of power the Reagan administration, in UPI's words, elaborated "a blood-chilling plan to rearm America for the purpose of achieving victory in a protracted nuclear war against the Soviet Union." On 1 March this year U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger signed this further developed and top secret document titled "Directives for the Development of Armed Forces in Fiscal 1985-1989." According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, it "integrates the plans for using medium-and long-range nuclear weapons," as well as laying a new stress on the use of chemical weapons and the development of new types of weapons guided, in particular, by high energy lasers, particle rays and superpowerful micro-waves. This entire range of mass destruction means has now been crowned with President Reagan's proposed program for the development of large-scale and highly effective anti-missile defenses.

Regardless of the fact that Washington's new venture is clothed in defensive phraseology, there is no doubt that it involves the continuation of the old line -- a gamble on creating a first-strike nuclear capability for the United States. This is exactly how President Reagan's decision was evaluated throughout the world. Even the particularly pro-American British newspaper FINANCIAL TIMES derides the U.S. President's attempts to present things as if the United States intends to impart a "defensive character" to its nuclear strategy. "If one great power were to create an effective missile defense system," the newspaper writes, "it could possibly believe in its capability to deliver a strike without fearing a counterstrike, which means that any attempt to shield itself behind such a system indicates the aggressiveness of its policy."

"Reagan's new strategy and his violent anti-Sovietism," the newspaper adds, "not only open new avenues of the arms race but also undermine the entire basis of negotiations to achieve control over armaments with the Soviet Union."

All sober-minded people on our planet have accepted Yu.V. Andropov's statement: "... The present U.S. Administrative continues to follow an extremely dangerous path. Questions of war and peace cannot be treated so lightheartedly. All attempts to attain military superiority over the USSR are in vain. The Soviet Union will never allow this, it will never find itself unarmed in the face of any threat. Let this be firmly understood by people in Washington. It is time for them to stop inventing new schemes of how better to wage a nuclear war in the hope of winning it. This pursuit is not only irresponsible, it is reckless."

The awareness of this indisputable truth is finding its way increasingly often through the barriers of anti-Soviet propaganda in the United States. Thus, the newspaper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes: "The talk about 'U.S. superiority' and the thought of 'limited nuclear war' are the product of dangerous shortsightedness. As the lessons of history testify, in the time since World War II the Soviet Union has always, sooner or later, overcome any lag behind the U.S. side in technology. The only realistic response consists of maintaining an approximate parity in strategic forces and of persistent and consistent negotiations on arms reductions."

NEWS ANALYST NOTES U.S. MILITARY EXPANSION ABROAD

LD071014 Moscow TASS in English 0933 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 7 TASS -- Imperial ambitions of "crusaders" from Washington know no bounds indeed. They regard as the "sphere of their vital interests" nearly the entire globe, proclaiming vast areas of the world ocean an "American lake" and whole continents a "White House lawn", Yuriy Gavrilov writes in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA.

The United States, the writer stresses, tirelessly sets up new and expands and modernises old military bridgeheads. The Pentagon now maintains abroad more than 1,500 military bases and facilities in the territory of 32 countries. A quarter of the U.S. Armed Forces is deployed in direct proximity to the borders of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community, as well as young developing nations. The greatest concentration of American GI's is in Western Europe -- 375,000 Pentagon soldiers.

The news analyst points out that the Pentagon's "bases strategy" in Europe acquires a particularly sinister aspect in connection with the U.S. and NATO plans to station here new American nuclear missiles -- cruise and Pershing-2. This aim is served by the NATO decision on nuclear modernisation and President Reagan's "interim proposal" designed as a kind of roundabout manoeuvre to attain the same goal -- deployment in Western Europe of American nuclear missiles able to reach Soviet territory within a few minutes.

The White House also proclaimed the Near and Middle East a "sphere of its vital interests", the news analyst writes, and is rapidly setting up there a network of new military bases for the Rapid Deployment Force in addition to the U.S. multi-purpose base on Diego Garcia Island. The recent establishment by the Pentagon of its central military command (Centcom) caused a fresh fit of the "base mania". Latin American and other parts of the globe are also in the focus of keen attention of American generals.

COMMENTARY EXAMINES U.S. 'PUBLIC DIPLOMACY'

LD070910 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] At the press news conference devoted to Washington's new foreign policy doctrine, Assistant Secretary for the European Affairs of the State Department Lawrence Eagleburger tried to clarify a rather vague notion of public diplomacy. More from our observer Aleksandr Korolev, and this is what he writes:

He resorted to the more habitual trade terminology. He explained that the notion public diplomacy implies that more effective publicity will be given in the future to the policy of the American President, which is in his opinion, a qualitative commodity. Hardly several days passed after the news conference when the world got a bright example of this political advertising. The advertiser was State Secretary George Shultz, who is publicizing in every possible way American policy towards developing countries. In an interview given to the magazine NOUVELLES ECONOMIST, the state secretary declared that the American diplomacy seeks to create in Africa, the Middle East and Asia a situation in which tension will be eased and the Third World countries will be protected from foreign interference. It's well-known that advertising is often deceptive, for it conceals sometimes certain defects and even major flaws. This is, in fact, what State Secretary Shultz is doing by trying to pass the American policy in Asia off as a sort of model of peaceful intentions. The state secretary's public diplomacy in this case is designed to conceal the true (?face) of the American policy, seeking to publicly intimidate the developing countries. There is nothing new about the tactics of public intimidation.

Speaking in Atlanta recently, State Secretary Shultz actually admitted that the threat of force or the use of force will always be determining features of relations between the United States and the Third World. He declared that after World War II, the United States sent 185 times its Armed Forces to developing countries, on the pretext of protecting political and economic interests of the United States. Washington's adherence to the tactics of public intimidation reveals itself in the fact that in the last 3 years, the number of American battleships in the Indian Ocean increased three times. The United States is building a network of military bases along the coast of the Indian Ocean. Washington attaches special importance to the building of bases in that region.

George Shultz noted once that no matter how eager the United States would be to build up the Rapid Deployment Force, it will not be able to deploy it without friends in the Third World. Hence, attempts to promote what is termed as friendly relations with the military regime of Pakistan. First, the United States offered a big aid package to the Pakistani regime, and in exchange, it started building electronic surveillance stations, airfields and other military installations in Pakistan. Friendship between Pakistan and the United States is not accidental.

A memorandum prepared by the American ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, states that Pakistan has a strategic importance. Its position is suitable in the best possible way for exerting American influence on the policy of Iran, Afghanistan and India.

So, as facts indicate, the tactics of public intimidation have been given a fresh impetus under President Reagan, who is trying as all the previous presidents were to establish a military and political domination over the developing countries. These American tactics find confirmation in official documents.

The memorandum prepared by Jean Kirkpatrick puts bluntly that the use of force has always been part of the historical process and the United States should not overlook that. Significantly, the memorandum was meant for the narrow circle of Washington officials, and this explains why it interprets so frankly the aims of American policy. The contents of it became known to newsmen by sheer accident.

As for the broader sections of the public, (?it) offered to buy the idea of public diplomacy in the spirit of false publicity, as State Secretary Shultz operated with when he was discussing in public the American policy in Asia.

TASS ON PRC ABROGATION OF CULTURE TIES WITH U.S.

LD071343 Moscow TASS in English 1310 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Beijing, April 7 TASS -- As reported by the NEW CHINA AGENCY, a spokesman of the PRC Ministry of Culture announced today that the Chinese Government was terminating the fulfilment of all programmes of cultural exchange with the United States planned for 1982-1983. These include exchanges of theatre companies, delegations of journalists, film workers, art exhibitions, etc.

It follows from the statement that the decision was made because the American authorities had granted recently political asylum to the Chinese tennis player Hu Na who had been playing in an international tournament in the United States.

A note sent yesterday to the American Government by the PRC Foreign Ministry says that the happening with the Chinese tennis player was "a serious political incident, a result of a long considered plan and deliberate provocation by the American side". The note also says that the American Government had connived at threats in respect of the Chinese sportswoman by a group in the United States that operated in collusion with Taiwanese elements.

TASS NOTES PRC-U.S. SPORTS EXCHANGES TERMINATED

LD071425 Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Beijing April 7 TASS -- The PRC's State Committee for Physical Culture and Sports is reported to have declared termination of sports exchanges between the PRC and the USA .

PRC OFFICIAL CITED ON U.S. 'TWO CHINAS' POLICY

PM071401 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 1 Apr p 3

[TASS report: "A 'Two Chinas' Policy"]

[Text] Washington, 31 Mar -- The American press has been commenting on the situation which has arisen in connection with China's intention to obtain admittance to the Asian Development Bank. As we know, Taiwan is a member of this bank organized 17 years ago and mainly subsidized by the United States, Australia, Japan and a number of West European countries.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR newspaper writes that the Reagan administration is opposing Taiwan's expulsion from the bank "for wholly understandable political reasons." According to a WASHINGTON TIMES report, U.S. Treasury Secretary D. Regan has stated that "a compromise decision" must be "worked out whereby China and Taiwan, notwithstanding their deputies, could be members of the Asian Development Bank".

The American press carries a statement by Qi Huaiyuan, chief of the Chinese Foreign Ministry Press Section, made at a press conference in Beijing in which he emphasizes that the United States is essentially creating obstacles to China's admittance to the bank and that "any obstacles in the way of the bank's abrogation of Taiwan's membership are inadmissible." The United States, the Chinese spokesman pointed out, must demonstrate by action and not just words that it is not pursuing a "two Chinas" policy.

U.S., JAPANESE CLAIMS OF SOVIET THREAT REJECTED

PM061317 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Kudryavtsev commentary under the rubric "Political Observer's Opinion": "Cutting Off the Branch...."]

[Text] It has so happened recently that any anti-Soviet propaganda lie originating from the U.S. ruling circles has been immediately picked up by certain circles in Japan, regardless of how much it may contradict or even harm the national interests of Japan itself. Take as an example the alleged "Soviet threat," which is inevitably mentioned in any speech by the U.S. President, even if the speech is not directly concerned with the problem of Soviet-U.S. relations. It transpires that exactly the same danger is also "threatening" Japan. NATO positions, the leaders of U.S. foreign policy claim, are threatened by Soviet medium-range missiles. Lo and behold, it is "revealed" that missiles of this type are also threatening Asia, and primarily Japan.

Reagan's "interim" proposals on the question of reducing nuclear arms in Europe, whose purpose is to cover up the one-sidedness of the "zero option" proposed by the President, claim that the SS-20 missiles are capable of hitting cities and targets on the territory of "our allies in Europe, as well as our friends and allies in Asia." This is why, in his words, the "interim" program must be implemented on a global (!) scale, in other words not only in Europe, but also in the Far East. Here for the Far East read mainly Japan. It is typical that the President said nothing about what the United States itself intends to do in the "interim" as regards the U.S. nuclear forces deployed in Asia, including the Japanese islands.

To compensate for this, however, the mechanism of U.S.-Japanese "strategic accord" was immediately set in motion. Japan's Prime Minister Y. Nakasone declared at his 31 March press conference that he "considers these (i.e. the interim) proposals expedient and supports them." He especially emphasized that "this problem concerns not just the United States and the USSR nor just Europe and the USSR, but the entire world." The Japanese prime minister found it necessary to add there and then that at the same time there cannot be a retreat from the "zero option." In other words, the U.S. Administration's proposals have given additional grist to the mill of the restorers of Japanese militarism. It would not do the Tokyo neomilitarists any harm to remember that the U.S. attempt to disregard such missiles in Britain and France in resolving the problem of medium-range missiles has been completely unmasked.

It can be said that Japan does not have its own nuclear weapons and that there exists the triune principle: "not to produce, not to possess and not to import nuclear weapons." It has, however, been already breached and is being repeatedly breached, especially since the U.S. plans, in the words of Tokyo SHIMBUN, are aimed at emasculating the above-mentioned three principles. Confirmation of this can be seen in the recent visit to Sasebo (Japan) by the aircraft carrier Enterprise, with nuclear missiles on board its aircraft, and also the scheduled arrival in Yokosuka in June or July of the latest nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Carl Vinson. At his recent press conference A.A. Gromyko noted in this connection that Japan and the waters surrounding Japan are teeming with nuclear weapons and corresponding carriers. The Japanese island of Okinawa has long since been a nuclear (?base) for the United States. Washington makes no secret about the target of these militarist measures. This is also well known to Japan's ruling circles.

To continue, one cannot trumpet about a "Soviet threat" against Japan allegedly stemming from USSR policies in Europe while keeping silent about the growth of Japan's Armed Forces on an unprecedented scale. Let us recall just that Japan's Armed Forces stand at about 240,000 men and officers, a figure which exceeds the numerical strength of the Japanese Army prior to the start of the Pacific war. Neither is it possible to compare the technical equipment of the modern Army with that of the past. The sixth plan for the strengthening and development of the "Self-Defense Force" in the 1983- [figure indistinct] period envisages a growth in the number of divisions and an increase in the numbers of tanks, self-propelled guns, including those capable of firing tactical nuclear charges, armored troop carriers, aircraft, naval ships and so on. In 1982 Japan ranked seventh in the world in terms of military expenditure. There is not a vestige of "self-defense" to talk about. What can be talked about now is Japan's integration in U.S. military strategy which spans not only Asia but the whole world.

The Americans frankly speak of Japan as "an unsinkable aircraft carrier." On encountering the facts of Japan's transformation into a U.S. military satellite it becomes clear that what is at issue is not Japan's self-defense but the use of its Armed Forces in the interests of Washington's aggressive policy. Is there anyone who is threatening Japan? In any case, it is not the Soviet Union, which consistently follows a policy of good neighborliness in relations with Japan on the basis of mutually advantageous economic, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation.

The Japanese leaders, especially in recent times, have made no secret of the target of their military efforts. Only a few days ago a Japan Defense Agency spokesman declared that the Japanese "Self-Defense Force" can protect the U.S. aircraft units needed to deliver a strike against the enemy. Japan has expressed readiness, at the first request by the United States, to block with its "Self-Defense Forces" all channels leading from the Sea of Japan to the Pacific. In other words, to organize a naval blockade of the Soviet far east. To put it briefly, there are examples aplenty!

And yet, no other country in the Far East needs peace and good neighborliness as much as Japan. In the event of a conflict, its geographic situation will deal Japan (?a fate) similar to the FRG's role in Europe. Its economy depends almost totally on imported raw materials and on developed foreign trade which can be ensured only in times of peace. The lessons of recent history involving the U.S. economic blockade of the Soviet Union show that Japan was the one to suffer most from it.

Is it not time for people in Tokyo to give some thought to where the country is being led by the policy of servility to the U.S. imperialist aggressors?

KAPITSA CRITICIZES JAPANESE 'MILITARIZATION'

OW080156 Tokyo KYODO in English 0108 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Text] Singapore April 8 KYODO -- Soviet Vice Foreign Minister Mikhail S. Kapitsa, while visiting here on his way to Japan, has strongly criticized what he described as Japan's militarization, a spokesman for the Singapore Foreign Ministry disclosed Thursday.

Japan is fanning the nationalistic and patriotic feeling of the Japanese in a bid to justify its defense budget boosting, Kapitsa said.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
NORTHEAST ASIA

The Soviet Union would take appropriate steps to show the Soviet intolerance of the revival of Japanese militarism, the Soviet official said.

According to the spokesman, Kapitsa made the statement during his meeting with Second Deputy Prime Minister for Foreign Affairs Sinnathamby Rajaratnam and Foreign Minister Suppiah Dhanabalan.

Kapitsa visited here April 4-6 and left for Manila Thursday.

He will arrive in Tokyo next Tuesday to attend a regular Japan-Soviet working-level consultation.

According to diplomatic sources here, Kapitsa, while meeting with the Singapore leaders, said that Moscow continued to ask Tokyo to pursue a peaceful policy and abide by its war-renouncing postwar Constitution.

But, Kapitsa said, Japan has been turning to a dangerous policy and taking a stance against the war-renouncing article No. 9 of its own Constitution, according to the sources.

Kapitsa said Southeast Asian nations, especially the Philippines and Indonesia, have a concern about Japan's militarization. Malaysia and Thailand seem to be not so apprehensive about it, Kapitsa said.

FLOATING U.S. BASE TO BE BUILT IN JAPAN

LD042155 Moscow TASS in English 2104 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Tokyo April 4 TASS -- The construction of a floating military airfield for the U.S. Air Force will cost the Japanese taxpayers more than 100,000 million yen. Japan's National Defense Agency has started working out a plan for the construction of such an airfield. The newspaper DAILY YOMIURI reports that the airfield will be a floating platform with several runways, a fuel storage and auxiliary services. The U.S. command intends to use the projected facility to relieve the Atsugi base, one of the U.S. biggest air bases. A floating airfield of the U.S. military will be located in one of the bays of the eastern coast of the Honshu Island.

JAPANESE COASTAL TRADE FAIR HELD IN NAKHODKA

PM060923 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 2 Apr 83 First Edition p 3

[Dispatch by SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA correspondent V. Sungorkin: "Handshake Across the Sea"]

[Text] Nakhodka, Maritime Kray, [no date given] -- The traditional "Japanese Coastal Trade Goods 83" fair has taken place in Nakhodka.

Coastal trade between Far Eastern krays and oblasts and their Japanese neighbors began 16 years ago. The Dalintorg foreign trade association took upon itself the role of organizer. Soviet enterprises and organizations situated on the Pacific coast were given an opportunity to offer locally produced goods for export. Japanese firms are happily buying from our country, for example, jams from local strawberries, taiga ferns, timber processing waste, metals and waste paper....

Coastal trade expands year by year. This year's fair was attended not only by representatives from the Far Eastern krais and oblasts, but also by representatives from the Buryat ASSR and Chita, Irkutsk, and Kemerovo Oblasts.

Some 21 Japanese firms exhibited samples of their output.

"Our trade relations serve the cause of peace and detente." Sato, director general of the board of directors of the association for Japanese-Soviet trade, said at the opening of the Nakhodka fair. "Evidence of this can be seen in last February's Moscow visit by a delegation of leaders from the largest Japanese firms and companies, which was the most representative delegation in the entire history of Japanese-Soviet relations. The talks held in Moscow open broad opportunities for the further development of turnover between our countries. It is deeply regretted that Japan has taken a number of decisions to use trade and economic cooperation contrary to our national interests, as a means of political pressure. Many Japanese firms were the first to suffer as a result of the 'sanctions' introduced by the United States against the Soviet Union. Japan and the USSR are good neighbors. We have many points of contact. These include geographical proximity and a mutually complementary foreign trade structure. Each year coastal trade becomes more and more popular in Japan.

USSR AID TO DPRK, KOREAN REUNIFICATION VIEWED

PM061151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[Special correspondents D. Valovoy, M. Poltoranin and V. Razuvayev report:
"Hamhung -- Chemists' City"]

[Excerpts] Pyongyang, Moscow -- When Korean comrades talk about Hamhung they usually mention the chemicals combine there -- the main enterprise of the Hungnam mineral fertilizers association. The combine's significance for the national economy can hardly be exaggerated. It produces some 300 types of product. Mineral fertilizers production is on a broad footing. The people of Hamhung help rural workers to increase the yield from the fields.

We were interested to learn that Soviet specialists participated directly in the postwar restoration and modernization of the Hungnam combine. In particular, the ammonium nitrate plant, which has become one of the leading production facilities, was constructed with the Soviet Union's assistance. The combine is continuing to expand and means of automation and mechanization are being introduced. Ammonia, urea, concentrated sulfuric acid and coal gas shops built in recent years are operating successfully. At one time only ammonium sulphate was produced here. Now several types of nitrogenous fertilizers as well as potassium and phosphate fertilizers have been put into production.

The DPRK's working people are confidently following their chosen path. But the building of socialism on Korean soil is still taking place in complex conditions. For more than three decades Korea has been split into two parts, and its people experience the tragedy of a national split. Many Korean comrades with whom we talked expressed the firm conviction that the main cause of the tension on the peninsula and the main obstacle in the path of peaceful unification is the continuing presence of American troops in South Korea. A 40,000-strong contingent of U.S. troops is still there, as well as air force and missile bases where weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are kept.

The aggressive war unleashed by the Pentagon in 1950 lasted 3 years. This summer the 30th anniversary of the cease-fire in Korea will be marked. But there is still no lasting peace on its territory -- only a truce. On both sides of the demilitarized zone troops are still concentrated. The American military, using the south of the peninsula as a bridgehead on the Asian mainland, organize various provocations here against the People's Korea. Military adventures like the Team Spirit-83 maneuvers and the threats and blackmail which Washington constantly resorts to cause justified concern among all who value the interests of peace and security in the Far East.

The elimination of the factors hindering the unification of North and South Korea has long been an urgent problem. Workers, members of rural cooperatives and figures in science and culture with whom we met during our tour of the country actively support the efforts of the Korean Workers Party and the republic's Government to settle the Korean problem. The aim of these efforts is to do everything possible to help eliminate tension in the Korean peninsula and promote the creation of real preconditions for the country's reunification on a peaceful democratic basis by the efforts of the Koreans themselves, with no outside interference.

DPRK AIRLINE TO FLY TO, OPEN OFFICE IN MOSCOW

PM080819 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Apr 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report under general heading: "Express News"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 6 Apr -- Regular flights began today by aircraft belonging to the DPRK airline Choson Minhan on the Pyongyang-Moscow-Pyongyang route. DPRK civil TU-154 aircraft will fly once a week, making stopovers in Irkutsk and Novosibirsk. It is planned to open a Choson Minhan office in Moscow.

SOVIET SERVICEMEN'S AID TO AFGHANS RECOUNTED

PM060827 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Apr 83 First Edition p 3

[Article by Captain A. Poltavskiy and Senior Lieutenant M. Syrtlanov under the rubric "On Afghan Soil": "According to the Laws of Fraternity"]

[Text] The Soviet servicemen serving with the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan are worthily fulfilling their international duty. They are always ready to come to the assistance of local residents and servicemen of the DRA Armed Forces.

The everyday practice of our servicemen's training and service is full of examples of courage, bravery and nobility.

Viktor, Son of Sayyed

It was midnight when the duty officer aroused Major V. Nosov, commander of a helicopter squadron, and reported:

"The dushmans have attacked a subunit of the Afghan Armed Forces in the mountains. The attack has been beaten off. Several officers and men have been wounded in combat. They are asking for assistance."

Nosov dressed quickly. "Which crew shall I send?" -- he thought. "For it is night, and the region is unfamiliar, and then you lose time on briefing and assigning the mission...."

"I will fly myself" -- he firmly voiced his decision.

While the flight technician was preparing the helicopter for takeoff, Nosov charted the course with the pilot-navigator.

A few minutes later the MI-8 took off. The minutes spent flying over mountain ranges silver in the moonlight dragged by tediously. Finally the crew spotted campfires below. Nosov directed the craft toward them. But then fireflies streamed toward the helicopter from a nearby ravine -- the retreated dushmans were making a machinegun "bark." The commander changed course and height and they got past the dangerous place.

It is difficult to land a helicopter on a tiny spot high in the mountains. And here the smoke from the campfires also forced them to do without the landing light. And so they descended by the light of campfires and the moon....

The wounded were delivered promptly to the Soviet Military hospital. Our doctors rendered assistance to the Afghan serviceman.

Later Junior Lieutenant Sayyed, one of those rescued, named his newborn son Viktor after the crew commander.

But the Mullah Disappeared....

The Mullah arrived in the village from goodness knows where. And rumors flew.... "The Soviet soldiers are infidels. The earthquake happened because of them...."

The earthquake really had caused considerable trouble. The fragile little houses suffered, the ceiling of the recently opened school collapsed....

Soviet servicemen arrived in the village under the command of Senior Lieutenant A. Lopatkin. They worked hard to help the people who had been made homeless. Soon an entire tent city grew up in the village.

The soldiers were really tired. But Privates S. Shiryayev, Z. Agabalayev and Z. Sharipov volunteered to repair the school. They were helped by pupils and the children's parents.

During all the days the Soviet servicemen shared their bread with the Afghans. Generously, as with heartfelt warmth.

But where was the strange mullah at that moment? He was not there. He had disappeared from the village.

DRA TRADE UNION DELEGATION VISITS USSR

Agreement Signed

LD070920 Moscow TASS in English 0717 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 7 TASS -- Delegations from the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions and the Central Council of Trade Unions of Afghanistan have expressed the view that the working class and trade unions throughout the world should maintain vigilance in face of machinations by the forces of imperialism, neocolonialism and reaction and should step up the struggle for stronger unity of action of the international trade union movement in the name of peace and social progress.

This is stated in an agreement signed on the results of a visit to the Soviet Union by the Afghan trade union delegation headed by 'Abdol Satar Pordeli, chairman of the Central Council of Trade Unions of Afghanistan. The agreement is published today in the newspaper TRUD.

The delegations expressed full support for the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in their struggle in defence of the revolutionary gains and for a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan, which can be achieved by the termination and guaranteed non-resumption of armed or any other outside interference in the affairs of that sovereign non-aligned state on the basis of the proposals put by the Afghan Government on May 14, 1980 and August 24, 1981 which remain standing.

The Soviet and Afghan trade unions expressed profound solidarity in the just struggle of the Arab peoples in defence of their legitimate national rights and interests.

The sides resolutely condemned the criminal Zionist aggression in Lebanon, undertaken with direct U.S. imperialist backing, and favoured an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli troops from Lebanon, and a guarantee of independence and territorial integrity to that sovereign country the document says. The Soviet and Afghan trade unions reaffirmed their invariable solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people under leadership of their sole legitimate representative -- the Palestine Liberation Organisation -- in defence of their inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination and creation of a national state of their own.

The sides fully backed the proposals advanced at the 7th Non-Aligned Nations Summit for turning the Indian Ocean into a peace zone and expressed their alarm over the U.S. Administration's decision to set up the so-called Central Command (Centcom), which poses a direct threat to the independent development of countries in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf, the agreement says.

Uzbekistan Visit

GF050554 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] A DRA trade union delegation headed by 'Abdol Satar Pordeli, chairman of the Central Council of Afghanistan Trade Unions, is visiting Uzbekistan. The guests from the DRA are acquainting themselves with the achievements of the Uzbek SSR in social and economic development and with the activities of the republic's trade unions. Included in their program is a tour of industrial and agricultural factories. The guests will also be acquainting themselves with the work of the Uzbek Council of Trade Unions, which, with its 6 million members, represents the largest social organization in the republic. On 4 April, the guests from the DRA visited Samarkand and acquainted themselves with sites of interest in the city. Samarkand is one of the historic cities in Central Asia and is currently regarded as an important industrial and cultural center in Uzbekistan.

AFGHAN COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES TRAINING IN IRAN

GF061446 Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Afghan Counterrevolutionaries in Iran"]

[Text] Dear listeners, recently the ruling circles in the United States have been sparing no effort to strengthen the undeclared war against the DRA through the aid of their [word indistinct] mercenaries. The main preparation for this war is being carried out in Pakistan. In fact about 100 bases and training centers are operating in that country to dispatch terrorists and destructive elements to Afghanistan. Meanwhile, it was the CIA's wish to lure the DRA's neighbor, Iran, into getting involved in this crime. The land of Iran, which is waging an irreconcilable struggle against U.S. imperialism, must be converted into a support base for the armed robbers and U.S. mercenaries. (?Regrettably), the evidence provided by witnesses indicate that pro-imperialist espionage organizations in Iran (?may) achieve success to some extent in this direction. Afghan counterrevolutionaries in Iran are carrying out military preparations. They are later dispatched into the DRA to plunder and kill the people and to carry out destructive objectives.

Naturally their number is less than the number of counterrevolutionaries sent into the DRA from Pakistan. A person named (Darhamji) has provided the following information in this respect. He was captured some time ago by the DRA security organs. He said that he had received military training in a base operated in Iran by an organization which has wrongly named itself as Jami'at-e Eslami Afghanistan. An Iranian merchant, 'Abdol Karim, who owns shops both in Iran and [name indistinct], said while he was in Kabul that certain Iranian reactionaries have supported the establishment of camps for Afghan fugitives in Iran just as in the case of Pakistan. Choosing robbers from these camps to send into the DRA is [words indistinct]. Afghan counterrevolutionaries in Iran are receiving funds directly from the CIA. In addition to this, they are also making large profits from the trade in narcotics drugs and other illegal activities.

Special Islamic committees are operating in all corners of Iran. These committees are attracting the robbers to side with them. In fact, they are collecting donations from simple people who do not know about the nature of developments related to the DRA. In short, it is regrettable that the effort made to lure Iran into the anti-Afghanistan adventure is continuing full swing.

It is crystal clear, however, that this state of affairs is by no means in the interest of the Iranian people. As we have pointed out, Iran itself (is faced with the undeclared war) Washington has been waging against it various fields, that is to say, in the political, economic, military and propaganda fields. It is also crystal clear that with the countries which the United States has chosen as the victims of its aggressive adventures is against the interests of Iran.

It is essential to unite in order to deal a heavy blow to the common enemy. In order to achieve this, however, it is essential to put an end to the effort made by pro-imperialist and reactionary circles to use Iranian soil to wage an undeclared war against the DRA.

AUCCTU DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT TO INDIA

LDO62227 Moscow TASS in English 1727 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] New Delhi April 6 TASS -- A delegation of Soviet trade unions headed by member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Central Council of Soviet trade unions Vasilii Prokhorov concluded a friendly visit to India, the visit that was made at the invitation of the All-India Trade Unions Congress. During the visit the delegation held talks with the leadership of the All-India Trade Unions Congress, had meetings with leaders of India's main trade union associations. The newspaper PATRIOT notes that the exchange of opinions that was held showed that the Indian trade union centres share fully the concern of Soviet trade unions over the aggravating international situation, believe that it is necessary to step up the struggle of the working people for the consolidation of the universal peace, ensuring the security of peoples, removal of the threat of war.

The delegation of the Central Council of Soviet trade unions met with India's minister of labour and reconstruction, Verendra Patil [name and title as received]. Different questions of the activity of trade unions in the Soviet Union and India were discussed in detail.

The Soviet delegation toured the country. It visited the metallurgical complex in Bokaro, the plant of heavy machine building in Ranchi and other projects built in India as a result of fruitful cooperation with the USSR. At these projects the delegation met Indian workers and trade union activists, Soviet specialists.

Vasilii Prokhorov and general secretary of the All-India Trade Union Congress signed today a communique on the results of the visit of the delegation of the Central Council of Soviet trade unions. The document stresses that the visit promoted further strengthening of fraternal ties between the trade unions of the two countries which play an important role in the consolidation of friendship of the Soviet and Indian peoples.

KAPITSA CONSULTS WITH SINGAPORE OFFICIALS

Remarks on ASEAN-Indochina Situation

BK061337 Hong Kong AFP in English 0942 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Singapore, April 6 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union hopes for an end to confrontation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the communist-ruled Indochinese bloc, Soviet deputy Foreign Minister Mikail Kapitsa said here today. He added that Moscow would also like to see dialogue established between the two groupings to resolve security problems in the area.

ASEAN groups Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand while Vietnam, Laos and the pro-Hanoi Phnom Penh Government make up the Indochinese bloc.

Mr. Kapitsa was speaking to reporters after an hour-long meeting with Singapore's Second Deputy Prime Minister Sinathamby Rajaratnam. Mr. Kapitsa, who has been in Singapore for the past three days on an unpublicised private visit, yesterday met Singaporean Foreign Minister Suppiah Dhanabalan for talks which reportedly centered on Soviet policies in this part of the world. Mr. Kapitsa was reported to have voiced Soviet unhappiness with what he viewed as Singapore's anti-Soviet stand while Mr. Dhanabalan said Singapore could not accept Soviet military aid to Vietnam which Hanoi had used to invade and occupy Cambodia. Mr. Kapitsa also reportedly said that Soviet troops would remain in Afghanistan until agreement was reached between Pakistan and the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

Talks Held 4-6 April

LD071240 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0915 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Singapore, 7 Apr (TASS) -- Consultations were held here between 4-6 April between M.S. Kapitsa, USSR deputy foreign ministers; S. Rajaratnam, Singapore's deputy premier; and S. Dhanabalan, Singapore's foreign minister. The sides exchanged views on the main international and regional problems and on questions relating to Soviet-Singaporean relations.

HEIGHTENED SUBVERSION SEEN AGAINST KAMPUCHEA

PM080927 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 4

[S. Agafonov "International Commentary": "Intrigues by Kampuchea's Enemies"]

[Text] Recent events attest for all to see that reactionary forces in Southeast Asia and their protectors are launching a new frontal attack on the revolutionary gains of People's Kampuchea. Kampuchea's enemies do not sparkle with inventiveness but have set old methods in motion: Propaganda onslaughts and insinuation, provocation squabbles on the Kampuchean-Thai border, and the stepping up of support for reactionary Khmer counterrevolutionary formations. What, then, has caused the latest outburst of anti-Kampuchean hysteria?

There can be no doubt that there are two main motivating reasons. Primarily, the strengthening of people's power in Kampuchea, the country's successful development in all spheres of national economic building and major improvements in the sociopolitical sphere. The other factor is to do with the growing understanding of Kampuchean domestic and foreign policy in the international arena and the condemnation by the world's progressive forces of the unseemly actions against Kampuchea. A graphic example of that was provided by the failure of the attempts by a number of states to fan up the so-called "Kampuchean question" at the seventh conference of nonaligned heads of state and government in Delhi.

Under these conditions, the enemies of People's Kampuchea have gambled on activating subversive actions against Kampuchea. They are being developed according to an already familiar scenario. The Western press is again aglow with reports on the notorious "coalition government." Publicity regarding the nonexistent "cabinet" entrenched on Thai territory is being supplemented by absurd reports on "successful operations" by bandits. Various "statements" are being published in support of the "coalition." In brief, everything is being done to demonstrate its vitality and to present the Pol Potite remnants and their ilk as some "real force." At the same time, supplies of arms and food are being increased to those ill-assorted reactionary Khmer groupings. The marking on such deliveries is familiar: "Made in USA," "made in the PRC," "made in Singapore" and on so on and so forth. The facts also indicate an increased number of foreign military advisers training bandits prior to their dispatch to Kampuchean territory.

Nor can one ignore such aspects as the inciting of Thailand into military confrontation with Kampuchea. Washington has declared Thailand a "frontline" state, is kindling Bangkok's militarist ambitions in every way and is granting considerable credits for arms purchases. Reports received on Thailand's use of U.S.-made chemical weapons during recent border provocations against Kampuchea leave no doubt as to who is to be the target of Bangkok's operations, according to the Pentagon strategists' schemes.

The anti-Kampuchean campaign inspired by international reaction is gathering momentum. But its imminent failure is clear -- it is a doomed venture. The policy of confrontation, pressure and threats will never lead to the constructive solution of the problems which the Southeast Asian countries are encountering. The policy of setting some states in the region against others will merely increase tension in Southeast Asia and create an explosive situation in that region. It is for this that certain external forces to blame for escalating the dangerous confrontation are striving. People's Kampuchea and fraternal Vietnam and Laos, which express solidarity with it, are proposing another path -- that of equitable dialogue without external interference, the establishment of stability in Southeast Asia by means of talks and the development of relations of trust and cooperation among the region's countries. These principles, formulated in the political declaration of the summit meeting among the three Indochina countries, are a reliable basis for the settlement of Southeast Asia's problems and the creation of a zone of peace and stability in that region of the world.

SRV NUCLEAR REACTOR BUILT WITH SOVIET AID

LD072248 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 7 Apr 83

[From the Vremya newscast; report by Sergey Alekseyev from SRV]

[Text] The South Vietnamese town of Da Lat has long been famous as one of the best resorts in the country, but over the past few years they not only talk of the beauties of Da Lat, but also of the important role the town is starting to play in the republic's economic life. This is the nuclear research center that is being built in Da Lat with the aid of the Soviet Union.

In the years of the U.S. occupation of South Vietnam, Pentagon experts built a nuclear reactor here for military purposes. A few days before fleeing Da Lat they dismantled the reactor; some of the fuel spilled into the environment, having a ruinous effect on it and on many of the local inhabitants.

The purpose of the new reactor now being built here is entirely peaceful. The isotopes obtained here will be used in agriculture, medicine, geology, and many other areas of science and the economy of socialist Vietnam. The main thing is that Vietnamese and Soviet specialists have envisaged everything to ensure a reliable protection of the unique local nature and to guarantee people's safety. The director of the nuclear research centre, (Pham Zu Khien) comments:

[Begin Pham video recording] We started building on 15 March last year, and we hope that approximately at the end of this year we will be able to carry out the physical commissioning of this reactor. Following the commissioning of the reactor, we hope that we will be able to obtain the first domestic isotopes. We hope that the project under construction here will be a graphic example of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam. [end video recording]

Following this large science center, it will be the turn of other projects already being built in Da Lat and not far from it; they will continue the new labor outlook of this region, and will become an important aid to the republic's socialist economy.

U.S. STATE OFFICIAL'S VISIT TO INDONESIA REPORTED

LD080955 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Text] Wolfowitz, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, has arrived in Indonesia on a 4-day visit. Our correspondent Aleksandr Fedonin reports from Jakarta:

The visit to ASEAN countries by Wolfowitz pursues in the main the propaganda goal of presenting Washington in the role of peacemaker. This is clearly no easy task. The U.S. Administration has not only been building up its own military effort, but has been striving to achieve the same thing from its military-political partners. In this respect particular attention is being paid to Japan. In accordance with the design of Washington strategists Tokyo is assigned the role of regional gendarme. However, Wolfowitz has assured people, the stepping up of Tokyo's military effort does not go beyond safeguarding its own security. ASEAN political circles are giving the matter a different appraisal. They are expressing serious concern at the increase in Tokyo's militarist effort; which may hardly be concealed behind loud propaganda phrases.

WESTERN SAMOA, USSR EXCHANGE TELEGRAMS

PM070857 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS Report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has sent a telegram to Tofilau Eti, prime minister of Western Samoa, congratulating him on his election to that post and wishing him success in his work. In a reply telegram Tofilau Eti conveyed gratitude for the congratulations to the USSR Council of Ministers. The telegrams express the hope that relations between the Soviet Union and Western Samoa will enjoy mutually advantageous development in the interests of both countries and for the good of international peace and cooperation.

USTINOV SPEECHES REPORTED; GDR VISIT CONCLUDES

Hoffmann, Ustinov Erfurt Speeches

PMO71327 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Apr 83 Second Edition pp 1, 3

[TASS report: "Friendship Rally, Soviet Military Delegation in the GDR"]

[Text] Erfurt, 6 Apr -- The Soviet military delegation headed by Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, today visited the GDR National People's Army's John Schehr Motorized Rifle Regiment. Army General H. Hoffmann, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and GDR minister of national defense, accompanied the Soviet guests to the unit, which is named for a German Communist and antifascist, a comrade of Ernst Thaelmann and Wilhelm Pieck.

An honor guard was lined up in the garrison for the arrival of the Soviet military delegation. D.F. Ustinov received the report from the unit commander, and the national anthems of the USSR and the GDR were played.

Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov and the delegation members familiarized themselves with the course of combat and political training of the regiment's servicemen. They visited technical workshops, attended lessons for servicemen mastering the fundamentals of military skills and talked with officers and men. The delegation head visited the Glorious Traditions Room and made an entry in the honoured visitors' book.

A friendship rally took place with the participation of officers and men of the regiment and also their Soviet brothers in arms -- servicemen of the Barnetskovskoye Guards formation of the group of Soviet forces in Germany.

H. Hoffmann delivered a speech at the rally.

Servicemen of the Soviet Army and the National People's Army, he said, have gathered today for this ceremonial rally in the John Schehr Motorized Rifle Regiment to greet dear friends and comrades in arms and to confirm our devotion to the common cause.

Allow me to convey to the servicemen cordial combat greetings from Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council.

There are among us representatives of the Soviet state, the mightiest bulwark of peace in modern times, and leaders of the valiant Soviet Army headed by Hero of the Soviet Union Marshal D.F. Ustinov, minister of defense.

H. Hoffmann went on to note the USSR defense minister's great contribution to developing the Soviet Union's Armed Forces, which stand guard over peace and the peoples' security. In the Soviet military delegation, he said, we greet all servicemen of the Soviet Armed Forces, which covered their banners with unfading glory in the heroic struggle for mankind's vitally important interests and which are today playing an outstanding role in the struggle to prevent world catastrophe, for peace and detente and to ensure socialist and communist building in our countries.

For us all, servicemen of the National People's Army and working people of Erfurt Bezirk, your visit and this rally near the dividing line between two world -- the socialist world of labor and the imperialist world of crisis and war -- are a major event. This rally symbolizes the determination of our soldiers, of German and Soviet Communists, through their feelings and thoughts to stand up for one another with their reliable weapons and their skilled hands -- in the interests of their own homeland, as well as in the interests of the homeland of our brother in arms, in the interests of defending their own home and their own families, as well as defending the home and families of our class brother.

This rally in the center of Thuringia will go down in the history of the National People's Army. It will be a portentous landmark in the annals of the traditions of brotherhood in arms and in class between our peoples, states, and armies. In this situation dangerous to peace we confirm that the historical advantages and the moral superiority of socialism will continue to be used in the interests of peace and progress.

The GDR working people and the servicemen of the National People's Army preceived with great satisfaction the replies of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions. His words are clear and understandable: "All attempts to achieve military superiority over the USSR are futile. The Soviet Union will never permit it and will never find itself unarmed in the face of any threat."

Of course, the workers, peasants, and soldiers of the GDR are also aware of their own increased responsibility for creating the invincible strength of the very first line capable of withstanding the onslaught of NATO's chief forces in any situation. The general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council has repeatedly emphasized in recent months that it is still our very important political task to ensure lasting peace and that we, while directing efforts toward specific measures to limit and reduce arms, will at the same time do everything to strengthen the GDR as a stable worker-peasant state and as one of the chief foundations of socialism and peace in Europe.

Addressing the fifth SED Central Committee Plenum, Comrade Erich Honecker said that we are inspired in this by the confidence that we are fraternal comrades in arms and allies of the mighty Soviet Union and the other countries of our community.

These words concern almost all spheres of social life -- both industry and public education, both agriculture and national defense, both science and the power industry. Our youth teams, which are working alongside their Soviet friends on the route of the gas pipeline and are making their contribution to opening up Siberia's natural riches, can serve as an example of this.

They are competing for the right to be called shock workers in the USSR, and they are rewarded as activist of the Soviet 5-year plan. These young people, working on the banks of the Dnestr and in the Ukraine, exemplify our internationalist position. They graphically demonstrate the sources of the socialist countries' strength and fraternal ties, sources which we will continue to utilize with still broader scope and which also help to strengthen our states' defense capability and promote peace for the peoples.

Commanders and fighting men, political organs and staffs of the National People's Army and the SED and free German youth organizations in our units and subunits here in the GDR are also doing everything to enhance combat readiness and strengthen ties as allies together with their comrades from the "neighbor's regiment" during competitions and on joint exercises and field exercise.

Marshal D.F. Ustinov pointed out in one of his speeches: "The party is guided and has always been guided by the Leninist principle of the unity of consistent struggle for peace and constant readiness to repulse any aggressor." He went on to say: "While there are people in the world who like to play with fire, we will not depart from this principle by a single step."

It is precisely in this spirit that servicemen of the National People's Army, which has its roots in the midst of our working people led by the SED and stand unshakably in the ranks of the socialist defensive alliance, want to make their contribution to preserving this principle.

As a token of high esteem and gratitude allow me to present a gift -- a wall hanging depicting Karl Marx, which shall remind you of your visit to the GDR in the year of Karl Marx.

May the common cause of our people, scientifically substantiated by this genius of mankind and leader of the international workers' movement, greatest son of the German people, flourish for ever and under conditions of peace!

Long live the friendship and brotherhood in arms between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the GDR, between the valiant Soviet Army and the National People's Army!

Long live the militant cooperation between the CPSU and the SED!

Long live Marxism-Leninism, the scientific world outlook of the working class, which guides us along the road to the future!

D.F. Ustinov then addressed the meeting. He said: We have had repeated opportunities to visit the GDR. We Soviet people have always been welcomed with great warmth and cordiality in your country. Today we are experiencing the very same friendly warmth and cordiality again on being with you, soldiers of the motorized infantry regiment.

We look on this as a manifestation of your feelings of profound respect for the CPSU, the Soviet people and the soldiers of the Soviet Armed Forces. Many thanks to you, dear comrades, for the cordiality and hospitality!

Taking advantage of today's meeting with you, I convey to you and to all soldiers of the GDR's National People's Army sincere greetings and good wishes from Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Ardent combat greetings are sent to you by the soldiers of the Soviet Armed Forces!

During our visit to your regiment we have seen how you live and serve and how combat training is progressing. Everything makes it clear that the regiment maintains firm military order and organization. It is felt that you are skilled masters of the weapons and combat equipment entrusted to you and that you are fulfilling with great responsibility the military duty to your motherland, the GDR!

Your regiment bears the name of John Schehr, glorious son of the German people, communist and antifascist. John Schehr, together with Ernst Thaelmann and Wilhelm Pieck, selflessly fought for the German people's bright future. Today that future is embodied in the GDR, the first state of workers and peasants on German territory. You are its loyal guardians. This is a high honor.

For more than one-third of a century the GDR's working people, in close alliance with the peoples of the other countries from the socialist community and primarily with the USSR's working people, have been successfully building a socialist society.

Friendship between the Soviet Union and the GDR is strengthening and developing year by year. This friendship is born of the great strength of proletarian, socialist internationalism. This strength is invincible. It is invincible because it expresses the single will and the thoughts and feelings of millions upon millions of people here in the GDR and us in the Soviet Union. It is invincible because our fraternal parties, peoples and armies are fully resolved tirelessly to strengthen the bonds of their friendship! It is invincible because it is founded on the great teaching of Marxism-Leninism, the teaching which is transforming the world!

In the GDR 1983 has been proclaimed the year of Karl Marx. This year the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries and all progressive mankind are celebrating the 165th anniversary of the birth and the centenary of the death of a thinker of genius and ardent revolutionary, the founder of scientific communism. The ideas of Karl Marx and his comrade Friedrich Engels were developed by Vladimir Ilich Lenin under new historical conditions. The teaching which he created -- Leninism -- is the epoch of mankind's transition from capitalism to socialism.

Beneath the banner of Marx, Engels and Lenin the peoples of our fraternal socialist community countries are successfully building socialism and communism.

Soviet people are now working persistently to fulfill the historic 26th CPSU Congress decisions and the plans for our country's socioeconomic development in the 11th 5-Year Plan. And, as true friends of the GDR, they take a sincere interest in all the affairs and achievements of your country's working people.

"Relying on the unbreakable alliance with the USSR and the other fraternal countries," Comrade Erich Honecker has pointed out "we have progressed steadfastly from decade to decade," and the GDR people's achievements in building the new life are incontestable. Under the leadership of their proven vanguard -- the SED -- your country's working people have made significant progress in all spheres of life. The GDR is now one of the 10 most developed states of the world in the economic respect.

We Soviet people are proud that the GDR is now a reliable forward outpost of socialism and peace -- an outpost on the border between the opposing social systems.

That border has never been quiet. But the situation in Europe is causing particular concern at this time, now that the aggressiveness of reactionary imperialist circles has sharply increased. The United States and NATO are cranking up the arms race without restraint, striving to achieve military superiority over the USSR and the Warsaw Pact. At the same time they are doing everything they can to mark the aggressive essence of their militarist course with false talk about the "Soviet military threat" and the supposed one-sided expansion of Soviet armaments in the past 20 years. All this is a monstrous invention. The Soviet Union has indeed strengthened its defense capability. But, as Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has stressed, "The USSR has been forced to do this in order to eliminate the American military superiority for which Washington now so yearns. The military-strategic parity which has been achieved has deprived the United States of the opportunity to blackmail us with the nuclear threat. That parity is a reliable guarantee of peace, and we will do everything to preserve it."

A particular threat to the cause of peace is embodied in the U.S. and NATO plan to deploy hundreds more American medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe. According to the Pentagon's calculations, this will supposedly increase U.S. survivability in the event of conflict. In fact the United States is placing its NATO allies under [the threat of] a retaliatory nuclear strike and making them hostages to its nuclear strategy. For the majority of the West European countries where the American nuclear weapons are to be deployed, that retaliatory strike could be the last.

The governments of the Western states should keep that constantly in mind.

Nor will the United States escape with impunity in that event. If Washington is calculating that we will retaliate to the use of Pershings and cruise missiles only against targets in West Europe, it is profoundly deluded. Retribution will inevitably follow against the United States itself too.

Will the deployment of the new type of American nuclear weapons contribute to peace in Europe, as the Washington administration is trying suggest? Our answer is unequivocal -- no. The appearance of these weapons will lead not to a reduction but to a further expansion of nuclear potentials. An arms race is not our aim, and we have stated that repeatedly. But the Soviet Union is forced to take the necessary steps to keep out of the imperialists' hands advantages which would enable them to dictate terms beneficial to themselves.

The U.S. President's "new" proposal on the so-called "interim option" also serves the purposes of upsetting the existing approximate parity in nuclear arms. It is being presented as a great U.S. concession at the talks. In fact it contains nothing new. It is a modification of the previous American approach aimed at deploying the American medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe at any price.

The main point of this proposal comes down to reducing the USSR's existing approximately 1,000 medium-range nuclear facilities by a certain number while increasing NATO's 1,000 facilities of a similar type by the same number.

What is more, as under the "zero option," the corresponding British and French arms as well as the U.S. forward-based nuclear facilities are still left out of account in the overall balance between NATO and USSR forces. In addition, the U.S. President's proposals provide that Soviet medium-range missiles must be reduced across our country's entire territory.

It is clear from this that the aim of the "interim option" is the same -- to achieve unilateral disarmament by the Soviet Union.

The question of nuclear weapons in Europe must be resolved only on the basis of the principle of equality and identical security, with which the USSR readiness to have in Europe not a single missile or a single aircraft more than the NATO side has in full accordance.

The agreement proposed by the Soviet Union on giving up all types of nuclear weapons intended for destroying targets in Europe -- both medium-range and tactical -- would serve this end to an even greater degree. This would be the "absolute zero" for both sides which would accord with all the peoples' innermost aspirations.

The U.S. President recently announced the start of the development of a wide-scale, highly efficient ABM defense. But these measures would in reality be not defensive but offensive, aimed at securing for the United States a first nuclear strike potential. They are intended to deprive the Soviet Union of the capability to deliver a retaliatory strike, to disarm the USSR in the face of the American nuclear threat.

We stress once again in all responsibility that the Soviet Union will never forego its security or the security of its allies.

Loyal to Lenin's policy of peace, the Soviet Union, the GDR and the other socialist community countries will do everything to turn aside the threat of war and to defend and consolidate peace.

The path to the resolution of this most burning problem of modern times is pointed out in the peace program for the eighties adopted at the 26th CPSU Congress. It received the unanimous support and approval of all the fraternal parties and states.

The socialist community countries' clear and precise proposals for curbing the arms race and averting the threat of war are contained in the Warsaw Pact states' Prague Political Declaration. Important proposals have been introduced by our countries at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. They are simple and understandable to all, but the West has so far remained deaf to them.

In addition to expanding military preparations against the socialist countries, imperialist circles are striving to undermine socialism from within. They are striving to cast aspersions on the achievements of the fraternal socialist countries' peoples in building a new life, to weaken their unity and to sow doubts among them as to the correctness of the path they have chosen.

But the wheel of history cannot be turned back. Our countries' peoples will never yield their freedom and independence or their achievements in building a new life.

This is guaranteed by their unwavering loyalty to Marxism-Leninism and to proletarian and socialist internationalism. This is guaranteed by their unbreakable friendship which has withstood the test of time!

The combat alliance of our armies -- the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces -- draws its strength from this friendship which is based upon the identity of fundamental goals and ideals. The Soviet Armed Forces and the GDR National People's Army are important links of this alliance. Jointly with the armies of other fraternal socialist countries they train and master the art of scoring victory. A vivid expression of the increased combat skills and of the combat friendship between our armies, which strengthens year by year, was provided by the "Brotherhood in Arms" and "Shield-82" maneuvers and others.

The friendship and cooperation between the soldiers of the group of Soviet troops in Germany and the GDR National People's Army are becoming increasingly close. Today, too, we see here Soviet soldiers, sergeants, and officers. You are perfecting your combat skills together and, as is to be expected from combat comrades, are standing shoulder to shoulder on guard over our peoples' socialist gains.

Under today's complex international situation the high combat ability and combat-readiness of our countries' armed forces are especially important. They represent a firm barrier in the path of the imperialist reaction's aggressive aspirations. There is no doubt that the soldiers from your regiment and the entire National People's Army, just like the soldiers of the other fraternal armies, will do everything to protect reliably the peaceful labor of the GDR people and the peoples of the socialist community countries!

Dear comrades, allow me once again to thank you for the cordial reception and wish you good health, happiness, and new successes in serving the GDR and the great cause of socialism and peace on earth!

III. 8 Apr 83

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
EASTERN EUROPE

Long live the SED, its Central Committee and its Politburo headed by Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee!

Long live the CPSU, its Central Committee and its Politburo headed by Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the Central Committee!

Long live the staunch and inviolable unity of the mighty socialist community!

May the friendship and fraternal cooperation between the peoples and armies of the Soviet Union and the GDR live forever and strengthen!

Ustinov's Berlin Dinner Speech

PM080907 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 83 Second Edition p 3

[Text of Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov speech at 5 April Berlin dinner under the general heading: "In Honor of the Soviet Military Delegation"]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Minister:

Comrades:

Allow me to express sincere thanks to the SED Central Committee, to Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, personally, to the GDR Government and to you, Comrade Minister, for inviting a Soviet military delegation to visit our country.

We are happy to meet you, our combat friends and comrades in arms, again.

With great pleasure I convey to you, to the troops of the National People's Army and to the working people of the GDR ardent combat greetings from CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov!

The troops of the Soviet Armed Forces send you combat greetings!

Relations between the Soviet Union and the GDR are relations of fraternal friendship. They are permeated with the spirit of proletarian, socialist internationalism, mutual respect and equality. Their core is the indissoluble unity of the CPSU and the SED.

The strength of our friendship lies in this unity. We are preserving it and will preserve it forever!

The Soviet Union and the GDR are members of the big, harmonious family of socialist community states and strong links in the Warsaw Pact organization. Our defensive military-political alliance plays an important and beneficial role in international affairs and reliably serves the fraternal countries' national and international interests. It is a reliable shield for socialist gains and world peace!

Today the socialist community is the most dynamically developing group of states in the world. As a result of the unity and mutual support our fraternal countries are successfully solving major tasks of socioeconomic development even in the conditions of a complicated international situation.

Your country is a clear example of this. It is little more than one-third of a century since the first worker and peasant state was formed on German soil. But even in that brief period of history there have been fundamental socioeconomic transformations in it. In the harmonious family of the fraternal socialist countries the GDR has become a flourishing state in which, as Comrade E. Honecker has said, everything created by the hands of the working people belongs to them.

The GDR people have put into practice and are continuing successfully to put into practice what the great thinkers Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels dreamed of and strove for, what the valiant revolutionaries Karl Liebknecht, Rosa Luxemburg, Clara Zetkin, Ernst Thaelmann and Wilhelm Pieck and other German patriots and internationalists struggled for.

The GDR working people are rightly proud of their achievements in the development of the economy, socialist democracy, science and culture and in raising the level of well-being. Carrying out the plans of the 10th SED Congress, the people of your country are confidently building a developed socialist society. And we Soviet people sincerely wish our German friends further creative successes in this.

The Soviet people are working hard to fulfill the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the 11th 5-Year Plan targets. In solving creative tasks, our countries are conducting a fraternal exchange of experience in building socialism and communism and are coordinating their foreign policy activity. Together we are strengthening our defense capability.

This task is a particularly acute one at the present time. Imperialist reactionary circles, above all the United States, are calling for a "crusade" against communism and hatching plans to destroy socialism as a system. And West of your borders there are people dreaming of revenge -- military and social.

Recently, Yu.V. Andropov stressed in his replies to a PRAVDA correspondent's questions, there has been a veritable flood of speeches from Washington all on the subject of military preparations, military programs, the creation of new types of weapons and the invention of new ways of unleashing nuclear war.

The United States and its NATO allies are relentlessly building up armaments. In defiance of the peoples' will they are persistently taking steps to deploy the new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles on the European Continent. The United States and NATO are seeking military superiority over the USSR and Warsaw Pact at all costs. But all these efforts are futile. We will never allow it.

Imperialist circles, above all the United States, would like to weaken and disunite the socialist community. In virtually all parts of the world Washington is demonstrating diktat and provoking aggressive actions by reactionary forces.

All this requires that our countries take determined steps in the struggle to preserve peace and prevent a nuclear war.

The Soviet Union and the GDR, together with the other socialist community countries, are sparing no effort to normalize the international political climate. Concrete proposals on curbing the arms race and lowering the level of military confrontation between the socialist states and the NATO countries are clearly set out in the Warsaw Pact states' Prague Political Declaration and have been put forward at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
EASTERN EUROPE

Our proposals are appreciated, understood and shared by all who cherish world peace. The Soviet Armed Forces, the GDR National People's Army and the armies of the other Warsaw Pact states are reliably watching over the peaceful labor of the peoples of the Soviet Union, the GDR and all the other socialist community countries.

As a result of the concern of our parties and peoples they have all they need to successfully repulse any aggression. It is our duty to further enhance the combat readiness of the allied armies of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces. We hope that the Soviet military delegation's visit will contribute to the attainment of this goal.

Allow me, dear friends, to thank you for the cordial welcome you have given the Soviet military delegation and to propose a toast:

To the SED and its Central Committee headed by Comrade Erich Honecker!

To the CPSU and its Central Committee headed by Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov!

To our fraternal allied armies and their combat friendship!

To the health of the GDR National Defense Minister Army General Heinz Hoffman!

To the health of all the people present!

'Reliable Mutual Defense System'

DW081005 Moscow in German to Germany 1600 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Vladimir Ostrogorskiy commentary]

[Text] The relations between the socialist countries are a new kind of relations such as have never been existed in history. These new relations are characterized by equality, fraternity, and common ideals and goals. This applies to each field of interstate relations within the socialist community, including cooperation in defense efforts. Defense Minister Ustinov's visit has again confirmed this. It demonstrates that the leading USSR and GDR military men assess the military-political situation in Europe and the prospects for its stabilization and improvement in an identical way.

The agree that it is necessary to work to reduce military confrontation between the socialist countries and NATO and to bring about a reduction in our removal of all nuclear weapons, including intermediate-range missiles and tactical nuclear weapons. This would be a genuine zero option for the two military blocs which confront each other in Europe -- a solution which would meet the wishes and aspirations of all European nations. In brief, this is the tenor of the joint stance of both states as expressed in the statements of both defense ministers, Dmitriy Ustinov and Heinz Hoffmann.

These statements gain specific significance and expressiveness because they were made in the GDR which is located on the frontline of the socialist community, at the interface of two antagonistic social systems, as it were. It is well known that NATO's powerful military potential stands on the other side of the GDR border. Of all NATO countries, the FRG is best equipped with the most modern weapons, and most of the Atlantic alliance's troops are stationed on FRG territory.

However, the FRG's American ally does not feel this is enough. The United States wants to deploy an additional 100 new intermediate-range missiles. These are first-strike weapons with which the Pentagon intends to fight and win a limited nuclear war on our continent. How is the intention to deploy missiles in the Federal Republic and the strategy devised by Washington about their use to be assessed in the light of allied relations between Washington and Bonn? They can only be described as a misuse of a partnership because in this way the United States exposes its West German alliance partner to a definite counterstrike and turns the FRG into a hostage of its hegemonist imperialist ambitions. This is an irresponsible game being played with the lives of millions of people and with the existence of a partner country which is practically serving as a decoy.

The FRG proponents of the U.S. nuclear shield should consider whether their country will now become a field for the American crusaders brandishing their nuclear sword.

The socialist countries are naturally forced to closely follow all events West of the Elbe. The security of the GDR and the socialist community in general is reliably protected by the strength of the entire community and its brotherhood-in-arms. Defense Minister Ustinov's visit to the GDR has shown how reliable the mutual defense system of the socialist states is and how smoothly the military mechanism functions -- a mechanism which they created and which protects the peaceful work of the people in these countries.

There is no doubt about the ability of the socialist community to adequately react to the new U.S. attempts to break the existing approximate nuclear parity and to achieve military superiority. However, the socialist countries would prefer to build their security on a nonmilitary basis, as Defense Minister Dmitriy Ustinov's visit to the GDR has again confirmed. Unlike the United States, the Soviet marshal stressed, the Soviet Union does not jeopardize its allies' security. Therefore, a political solution to the security issue, above all the possibility of disarmament, has been given so much attention during the visit, the Soviet people and the GDR citizens, as well as the people of all other socialist countries -- no matter whether they have a civilian or a military profession and irrespective of their social position -- support the ensuring of peace and security on our continent by halting the arms race unleashed by NATO in Europe.

Activities, Speech Concluding Visit

LD072053 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] The Soviet military delegation, which is on an official friendly visit to the German Democratic Republic, visited the Engels Military Academy of the GDR national People's Army in Dresden and became acquainted with their training program. Members of the delegation talked with specialists, the academic staff and students of the academy. The Soviet military delegation then visited the Dresden Art Gallery.

In the afternoon the Soviet military delegation was received by Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State. A friendly talk took place. In a solemn atmosphere Comrade Honecker presented Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR defense minister and marshal of the Soviet Union, and other members of the Soviet military delegation with orders of the GDR. Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov was awarded the Order of Karl Marx.

Speaking to those who had received the awards, Erich Honecker noted the great services rendered by the USSR defense minister in strengthening the fraternal relations between the GDR and the USSR and the brotherhood in class and arms between the armed forces of both countries. He went on to say: The elimination of military supremacy of imperialism, which has resulted from the great efforts of the USSR, and the establishment of approximate military-strategic equality between the Soviet Union and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, is an invaluable feat in the name of peace. Without this historic achievement, the most prolonged period of peace in Europe in our century would have been inconceivable. This approximate military-strategic parity was and still remains a reliable guarantee of peace. We are wholly and fully in agreement with Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, our comrade and friend, who recently stated that we are doing everything to maintain this parity.

On his own behalf and on behalf of those who received awards, Comrade Ustinov sincerely thanked the SED Central Committee and GDR Government for the high award.

On the same day Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov gave a reception at the USSR Embassy. Addressing those present the USSR defense minister said: The visit of the Soviet military delegation to the German Democratic Republic has come to an end. During the talks and meetings, a useful exchange of opinions took place on a number of questions of military cooperation between our countries. We hope that the decisions which we have made and the agreements which have been reached will serve to further strengthen the defense ability of the USSR and the GDR and of the entire socialist community. Friendship and close cooperation, Comrade Ustinov continued, help our countries to successfully solve the tasks involved in economic development and in strengthening defense capabilities. As Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov stressed, these questions have always occupied and will continue to occupy a special place of priority in the international policy of the USSR. A firm socialist community is the determining factor in the struggle for preventing a new world war. We hope that the visit by the Soviet military delegation to the German Democratic Republic, and the meetings and talks with our German friends, will serve this important and noble cause.

On behalf of the Soviet military delegation and the entire personnel of the USSR Armed Forces, Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov wished the fraternal German people and the servicemen of the National People's Army, success in building developed socialism and its reliable defense.

Departs Berlin 7 Apr

LD072034 Moscow TASS in English 2012 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Berlin April 7 TASS -- The Soviet military delegation, headed by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Defense of the USSR Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, left Berlin tonight.

FRG'S BAHR CRITICIZES REAGAN'S ARMS STAND

LD071822 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Bonn April 7 TASS -- The stand taken by U.S. President Reagan does not contribute to good progress of the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe. This opinion is expressed by Egon Bahr, a prominent West German political figure and member of the Presidium of the SPD [Social Democratic Party] board, in an article published in the VORWAERTS weekly.

It is indisputable, he stresses, that up to now the West has failed to give any answer to the proposal put forward by the USSR and its allies to conclude a treaty between the Warsaw Treaty member states and the NATO member countries on mutual non-use of force and maintaining relations of peace. At the talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe, Egon Bahr writes, the Soviet Union also has strong arguments when it demands that not only ground based missiles, but also other weapons systems be taken into account.

"Moscow has shown flexibility at Geneva, whereas Washington hasn't," Egon Bahr writes in conclusion.

FRG RATIFIES ANTI-CHEMICAL WEAPONS TREATY

LD071825 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Bonn April 7 TASS -- The FRG has become as of today a participating country in the convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and on their destruction. It was announced by the Foreign Ministry that the FRG Government has deposited instruments of ratification in Washington and London.

ROMANOV-LED HELSINKI DELEGATION RETURNS HOME

Final Meeting, Departure Noted

LD071333 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium met in Helsinki today the leadership of the Communist Party of Finland. The talk was held in the atmosphere of friendship and openness which is characteristic of relations between the two parties. Issues of mutual interest were discussed. The Soviet Government delegation led by Comrade Romanov which took part in celebrations of the 35th anniversary of the 1948 Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance left for home today.

Gorbachev, Ruben in Welcome Party

LD071657 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Today the Soviet Government delegation led by Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium arrived in Moscow from Helsinki.

The delegation took part in the celebration of the 35th anniversary of the 1948 Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. At Moscow Airport the delegation was met by Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Ruben, chairman of the Council of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and other officials.

PRAVDA FRONT-PAGES FINNISH PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PM080917 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Apr 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

Today, on the 35th anniversary of the signing of the 1948 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between Finland and the USSR, it gives me sincere satisfaction to convey to you on my own behalf and on behalf of the Finnish people cordial congratulations to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the people of the Soviet Union.

The experience of past decades has proved the wisdom and historic nature of the decision to conclude this treaty, which laid a firm, irreplaceable foundation for our countries' relations. This foundation enables us to continue successfully preserving the legacy which binds us and which was created by the efforts of the founders of our relations. In the existing international atmosphere the value of trusting, good-neighborly Finnish-Soviet relations is stressed even further. Our country's fine relations, independent of fluctuations in international politics, are a good example of how two countries, different in terms of their social systems, can live as good neighbors and implement fruitful cooperation between themselves beneficial in all respects to both sides.

On the basis created by the 1948 treaty we Finns will for our part continue our work for the further development of all-around cooperation between Finland and the Soviet Union for the benefit of our peoples and in the interests of the consolidation of the friendship between them.

[Signed] Mauno Koivisto, president of Finland.

ISRAEL PREPARING FOR WAR WITH SYRIA IN SPRING

PM051345 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 5

[K. Geyvandov "Political Observer's Opinion": "Tel Aviv Playing With Fire"]

[Text] As the Israeli newspaper THE JERUSALEM POST has reported, Major General M. Levi, who has been appointed chief of the Israeli Armed Forces General Staff, declared recently that Israel is prepared for a possible war against Syria this spring. Thus, the general stated openly what is on the mind of Tel Aviv's rulers, who rely on Washington's unconditional support and who have now been conducting an unbridled anti-Syrian campaign for several months. It is noteworthy that reports of increased terrorist activity by foreign agents have at the same time begun issuing once again from Syria.

Hardly anyone today is surprised at the fact that Israel's Zionist leaders think only in terms of wars and aggression with regard to their Arab neighbors. It is also an open secret that there is a very close interweaving of the strategic, military, political and economic interests of the United States and the Israeli Government, when American Defense Secretary C. Weinberger calls Israel his "strategic asset."

There is no doubt that in this instance, too, Tel Aviv and Washington are acting in concert. But what do they have in mind this time? The same old thing, I believe. The preparation of aggression against another Arab state is new confirmation of the American-Israeli partners' intentions of continuing the policy of military adventures in the region, the policy of frustrating all efforts for a just Near East settlement, whose crux is the Palestinian problem. The creation of new "faits accomplis" and the expansion of the "land of Israel" would be a catch for Israel's Zionist leaders in these troubled waters, as would the ever-increasing American military presence in the region for the U.S. Administration.

In order to see for oneself the true intentions of the American-Israeli alliance it is sufficient to take a look at their present activity in Lebanon. Resorting to all sorts of tricks and subterfuges, through Washington's mediation Tel Aviv is delaying the withdrawal of its expeditionary corps from that country and is in fact working to perpetuate the direct or indirect Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon. Precisely this is the view that should be taken of the ultimatum advanced by the Israeli Government at the tripartite talks, whose purport boils down to offering Beirut a "choice" -- either the endless Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon or the transfer of this territory to the control of the puppet Haddad.

Meanwhile, the Israeli-occupied regions of Lebanon are being used to step up war preparations against Syria. It is pointed out that recently the Israeli military has considerably strengthened its positions in the Al-Biqa' Valley. Israeli Defense Minister M. Arens has issued an order placing the country's naval and air forces in a state of enhanced combat readiness. He personally inspected Israeli positions in Lebanon, after which reinforcements were moved in -- armored forces and artillery. Washington's decision to supply Tel Aviv with 200 Sidewinder missiles may be regarded as direct proof that the United States is encouraging all these actions of the Israeli military.

At the same time the Americans themselves are not hanging about but are making an active effort to turn Lebanon into a new U.S. military base in the region, which will evidently be included in the overall chain of the already existing bases included in the zone of the recently created Central Command.

To this end Washington is planning a considerable increase in the strength of the American Marines stationed on Lebanese territory. The "Green Berets" are firmly placing under their control the emerging Lebanese Army, which is being armed and equipped chiefly with American weapons and hardware. The Pentagon has great military plans for the territory of southern Lebanon.

Following the NATO leaders' well-known decisions extending this aggressive bloc's sphere of operation to Syria, Lebanon and Israel, the American military is actively involving the NATO allies in realizing its military-strategic plans in the region. One of the steps in this direction was the creation of the so-called multinational force for Lebanon, which incorporated, as was only to be expected, troop contingents from the NATO countries -- the United States, France, Italy and Britain. And, in all probability, we must expect a considerable increase in their activity both in Lebanon and throughout the Near East region, as a sharp increase in the strength of these troops is planned.

It is not hard to notice that the American-Israeli war preparations in the Near East both being implemented now and planned for the future are a constituent part of the extremely dangerous policy of fueling nuclear missile psychosis, the policy of military confrontation adopted by the U.S. Administration.

Israel's criminal designs with regard to Syria, the Soviet Government statement reads, cannot leave anyone apathetic and must be frustrated. The Syrian people are not alone. Arab patriots, the socialist countries and everyone who values the cause of peace, justice and honor are on their side.

'Rebuff' Not Ruled Out

PM061037 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Apr 83 (Signed to Press 4 Apr) p 1

[Igor Belyayev article under the rubric "On International Topics": "Sharpening the Knives for use Against Syria"]

[Text] It is necessary once again to think about a possible new aggression in the Near East. And once again Israel and the United States could play the part of the aggressor. The former as the executor, the latter as the instigator.

There is something new in the latest statements by Israel's political and military leaders on the so-called "Syrian threat." That threat appeared as soon as Syria decided to deploy missile complexes on its territory -- complexes intended exclusively for defense. That is, it is a matter of defensive weapons deployed in a sovereign state!

Israeli Defense Minister M. Arens resorts to unique terminology. He speaks of "prophylactic" strikes against Syria. That terminology is something new compared with the "preventive" strikes which Sharon used to call for. It follows from M. Arens' statements that he himself will determine the time, place and target of the strike against Syria.

Another new element in the present dangerous situation in the Near East is the fact that together with Israel, the United States is now openly coming out against Syria. Reagan very much wants to secure another "victory," which he needs in order to promote his candidacy for another term as President. The President's advisers believe that after Washington's demonstration of "toughness" toward Libya, success in exerting pressure on Syria will help.

Great significance is attached to the observation in the 30 March Soviet Government statement on the dangerous situation in the Near East to the effect that the attempt to dictate ultimatums to Syria has been undertaken in connection with the fact that other people too are threatened with the fate of ending up harnessed to the American-Israeli team. It is worth thinking about this. The more so as the United States, in order to encourage Israel to make a strike against Syria, has supplied it with a consignment of the missiles used in Lebanon....

Will Israel risk a strike against defensive weapons on Syrian territory? That is the question today, despite the fact that the Syrian leadership has made no threats against Israel.

If you recall what General M. Levi, the new Israeli chief of staff, stated recently -- Israeli will be ready for war with Syria this summer -- the possibility of a strike should not be excluded. But M. Levi, for his part, should not exclude the possibility of a rebuff for the Israeli Air Force.

As the Soviet Government stated: "Israel's criminal designs toward Syria cannot be a matter of indifference to anyone, and they must be thwarted. The Syrian people are not alone. Arab patriots, the socialist countries and all who value the cause of peace, justice and honor are on their side."

INA SAYS STRONGLY WORDED USSR MEMO GIVEN TO IRAN

JN081024 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Apr (INA) -- Press reports here today revealed that the USSR Government has recently given Iran a strongly worded memorandum on its intransigent refusal to end the war with Iraq. Reporting this, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-HADAF cited informed diplomatic sources as saying that the memorandum was conveyed to Tehran by the chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs during his visit to the Iranian capital last week.

According to these sources the memorandum said that the Kremlin leadership can no longer tolerate Iran's kindling the fire of war in the sensitive Gulf region and that Moscow does not want to see the Iranian regime become isolated even from some countries of the Eastern bloc which have maintained a minimum level of friendship with Tehran.

AL-HADAF added that the USSR memorandum informed the Iranian regime that USSR-North Korean deliberations are currently underway to convince the Pyongyang government to suspend its arms supplies to Iran.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPORT ON GORSHKOV PDRY VISIT

PM080821 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Mar 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit Ends"]

[Text] Aden, 29 Mar -- Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, commander in chief of the Navy and USSR deputy defense minister, has ended his official visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY). During the visit there were meetings with Colonel 'A.'A. 'Ulaywah, first deputy defense minister and chief of PDRY Armed Forces General Staff. They discussed bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and the PDRY and other matters of mutual interest.

PDRY Prime Minister 'A.N. Muhammad, general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, received the Navy commander in chief. In a ceremonial atmosphere 'A.N. Muhammad presented a PDRY Government award, the Order of the "Friendship of the Peoples," to S.G. Gorshkov.

On 29 March Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, commander in chief of the Navy and USSR deputy defense minister, returned to Moscow from his official visit to the PDRY.

Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov was greeted at the airport by Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, admirals and officers.

OCTOBER WAR, USSR-EGYPT RELATIONS REVIEWED

LD072345 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Vladimir Larin commentary: "Some of the Lessons of the October 1973 War"]

[Text] This year is the 10th anniversary of those famous days of October 1973 when the fourth Arab-Israeli war broke out. We believe it to be useful to cast a neutral look back at the past events in order to know what they have led to and what their consequences are.

A big event is like a high rise -- difficult to see and appreciate from a close distance. In order to absorb it fully one has to stand back some distance from it. The famous Russian scholar Luchevskiy compares history to a torch that illuminates the future by the light of the past. Actually, correct understanding of the past is vital to the present as well as the future. One more thing of not inconsiderable importance must be remembered: For various reasons, many mistaken opinions and concepts have accumulated in recent years with regard to some aspects of the October war. Perhaps some of these mistaken concepts came about as a result of insufficient knowledge of the facts and because of premature ideas; in other words, they were formed unconsciously. But other concepts were deliberately formed for certain political reasons.

Some people portray the October war as if it were a glorious victory for the Arabs over the Israelis; others voice an opposite opinion and say that it was a victory for the Israelis. Some hold the opinion that the military operations were carried out for the purpose of liberating the Arab territories occupied by Israel; others speak about only Egypt's political maneuver for certain purposes. Many believe that the Egyptian and Syrian Armed Forces surprised Israel by their military operations, but there are those who do not believe that Israel, which creates so much fuss about its security, can be taken by surprise.

To date various interpretations are given in Egypt, for instance, on the role of the United States and USSR during the 1973 October war. Many who had direct knowledge of the military and external political situation in those days speak about the Soviet Union's important and positive role in those events. However, there are also those who (?accuse) the Soviet arms that are given to the Arabs, reiterating that these arms were not sufficient in quantity in Egypt in October 1973 and that they were inferior. But those who actually used those arms and who know the facts stress the opposite, and say that the Soviet arms ensured success for the Egyptian Army.

When evaluating the events of the October war, many ask: Did the Egyptian leadership take advantage of the arising situation in order to realize the just goals of the Arab nation, namely, to remove the effects of the Israeli aggression, ensure the rights of the Palestinian people and establish true peace in the Middle East, peace that ensures the independent political and economic development of the Arab states? How was it that the imperialist United States with its policy that seeks to subjugate other states managed to return once more to Egypt itself and to the Middle East in the wake of the October war, which revealed the heroic nature of the Egyptian people and of all the free Arab nation? How was it that the United States found itself playing an unfamiliar role -- that of a friend to the Egyptian people? Lastly, the following problem must preoccupy all the friends of the Arabs: How was it that a pioneer progressive Arab country, such as Egypt used to be, came to be in the camp of the enemies of the Arabs and has become a target of Arab boycott?

Therefore, on the 10th anniversary of the 1973 October war we have decided to go back to the events of that era. Our task, as usual, to speak -- out of the sincerest feelings toward the Egyptian people -- about our viewpoint on various issues, about the opinion of the Soviet peoples, the friends of Egypt. Frankness and mutual understanding always lead to the consolidation of friendship. Old ties link us to the Egyptian people; these ties have often been exposed to tribulation but have emerged triumphant every time.

MOSCOW RADIO CONFIRMS USSR SUPPORT FOR ARAB WORLD

LD071647 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 7 Apr 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program by Rafael Arutyunov]

[Text] The mass information media in the Arab countries attach great attention to the Prague meeting of the committee of the Warsaw Treaty foreign ministers, which has ended. The meeting was attended by the foreign ministers of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia. The foreign ministers discussed matters pertaining to the implementation of the proposals and initiatives submitted by the Warsaw Treaty Political Consultative Committee, which was also held in Prague.

These initiatives paid special attention also to issues of concern to the Arab world. They pointed to particular to the solution of the Middle East conflict, which is the longest and most dangerous one. The conference strongly denounced Israel's aggression on the Palestinian and Lebanese in Lebanon and demanded the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon immediately and completely and the guaranteeing of the independence and sovereignty of this country as well as its unity and territorial security. They praised the principles for solving the Middle East question put forward by the Arab summit conference held at Fes.

The principles which the USSR and other socialist bloc countries depend are well known and are fully consistent with the resolutions adopted at the Fes conference. This creates favorable conditions for the coordination of efforts between the Arab countries and peoples and those of the socialist bloc countries and their close cooperation in the struggle for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

It is noteworthy that the Syrians, Egyptians, Palestinians and Lebanese have all received constant aid and support from the USSR and other socialist countries in the cause of curbing the Israeli aggression and the defense of their legitimate rights and interests. In these conditions the Arab world can be firmly confident that its efforts to implement the Fes summit conference resolutions will enjoy the same report.

CUBAN JOURNALIST IN IZVESTIYA ON U.S. DEMANDS

PM080757 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Francisco Lopez Segrera under the rubric "Foreign Journalists in IZVESTIYA": "Awakened Continent"]

[Excerpt] Havana [no date given] -- Washington never tires of repeating the lie that "Cuba is engaging in the export of revolution to other Latin American and African countries." As is well known, revolutions cannot be artificially generated in any country -- they are the result of internal socioeconomic development. Long before the Cuban revolution, the struggle for independence was gaining strength and powerful social movements had arisen and matured under conditions of exploitation and oppression.

The peoples' oppressors haul out all sorts of "external reasons" in an attempt to conceal the long years exploitation and social injustice against the working people. Numerous publications in the United States itself and statements by U.S. diplomats like former Ambassador to El Salvador Robert White or former Chief of the U.S. Mission in Havana Wayne Smith attest that it would be downright absurd to attribute events in Central America to USSR or Cuban "interference."

Loyal to its international principles, Cuba is ready to help peoples struggling against oppression, colonialism and neocolonialism. However, it selfless support is based on absolute respect for other countries' sovereignty. Cuba has won respect among the world's peoples by its internationalist aid.

The so-called "Santa Fe Document" compiled by R. Reagan's closest advisers says literally: "Havana must take responsibility for its aggressive policy with respect to the brother-nations of America." The Cuban people, by their history, traditions and several problems, are close to the people living south of the Rio Grande. Aggressiveness against neighbors accords with neither our principles nor our interests.

From the first years in which the Latin American countries gained independence through to this day, it has been the United States itself which has acted as the aggressor in the Western Hemisphere. History supplies us with a whole "bouquet" of military interventions and numerous acts of aggression infringing the sovereignty and economic independence of the continent's countries. Connivance with British imperialism in the adventure it unleashed in the South Atlantic was the latest glaring example of this.

Some time ago U.S. Assistant Secretary of State T. Enders shamelessly said: "the latest example of the Cuban export of revolution to Latin America is the Sandinists' victory in Nicaragua. But, since we intend to continue helping Central American countries in danger, this will not happen again."

The U.S. spokesman frankly expressed the U.S. geopolitical concept and intention to depict any public movement in the countries of the continent as a result of external aggression -- the alleged agent being socialist Cuba. Need we recall that the Sandinists' struggle in Nicaragua began over 50 years ago against U.S. Marines invading the republic?

The events in Nicaragua are not a "success" for Cuba, as U.S. propaganda asserts. They are a victory for the Nicaraguan people on the one hand and for the overthrow of the Somoza dynasty's dictatorship on the other.

The United States makes so-called "moderation" on Havana's part the main condition of talks with our country. Cuba is a sovereign country; it has the right to pursue an independent foreign policy. The condition set by Washington is just as absurd as, for instance, for Cuba to demand that the United States cease to be an imperialist power.

Throughout the past 24 years Washington has refused to embark on equal talks with Cuba and has demanded as a necessary condition for such talks that our country again become a U.S. colonial appendage. How else are we to interpret President R. Reagan's call for Cuba "to return to its former place in the Western Hemisphere?"

The state of relations between Cuba and the United States is a long way from normalization since the U.S. position remains unaltered. Washington is refusing to recognize the Cuban revolutionary government's very right to existence.

Successive administrations at the White House helm have obstinately refused to respect Cuba's independence and sovereignty. Whereas in the past they justified their policy by alleging that the Cuban revolution was incompatible with the system of "representative democracy," now Washington is demanding that Havana break off its friendly ties with the Soviet Union and return to "paternal" U.S. guardianship.

Cuba is a respected member of the community of socialist countries. In the 24 years since the Cuban revolution's victory relations between Cuba and the Soviet Union have developed on the basis of mutual respect. Neither the USSR nor the other socialist countries have banks, mines or factories on our territory. The fraternal ties linking our states are a model for relations between sovereign countries.

GOVERNMENT PANEL DISCUSSES ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

PM060715 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Commission Session"]

[Text] A regular session of the USSR Council of Ministers presidium commission for environmental protection and the rational utilization of natural resources was held 31 March.

Reports were heard from leaders of the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production, and the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers on measures taken by them to improve the protection of the atmosphere in cities in the Armenian SSR. It was noted that a number of enterprises under the above-mentioned ministries are lagging behind the set time limits for implementation of environmental protection measures.

Gorispolkoms in the **Armenian** SSR and the Republic Administration for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control are slack about using the rights granted to them in the struggle against breaches of the law on protection of the atmosphere.

The commission instructed the relevant organizations to intensify their struggle against air pollution in cities in the Armenian SSR and especially to rectify quickly the lag allowed in commissioning the new dust-and gas-purification equipment and to improve the utilization of existing installations.

A report by the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy was examined on the progress of work for the recultivation of lands and the utilization of fertile soil layers during exploitation by its subordinate enterprises of iron ore deposits in the region of the Kursk Magnetic Anomaly. Serious shortcomings in this work were noted, especially in the work to improve the fertility of unproductive soil taken from the Chernozem layers.

The commission instructed the leaders of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the Tsentrtruda and Soyuztruda associations, and the Lebedinskiy, Stoylenskiy, and Mikhavlovskiy mining and enriching combines to take additional measures to ensure the timely recultivation of lands and the rational utilization of fertile soil layers as envisaged by the land legislation. Other matters were also examined.

RECENT LEADER APPEARANCES, ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Leaders Attend Gosstroy Session

LD042026 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 4 Apr 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A broad session of the collegium of the USSR State Committee for Construction Affairs [Gosstroy] was held in Moscow today.

Comrade Novikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Construction Affairs, presented a report about the tasks concerning the implementation the CPSU Central Committee decision on measures to ensure the fulfillment of plans regarding housing construction and social and amenity projects. The session reviewed issues concerning the fulfillment of plans for housing and civil construction, and its further development in the light of the decision by the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum and Comrade Andropov's speech at the plenum. The session discussed specific measures aimed at improving design and town planning, improving the quality of construction work, increasing the level of industrialization and prefabricated finish of products [zavodskaya gotovnost izdelii], and improving the level of work of housing elements combines. Considerable attention was given to lowering the costs of construction, to fighting excesses [borba s izlischestvami], to economizing material and labor resources, and to ensuring the maintenance and reconstruction of existing housing. The session determined the tasks related to implementing scientific-technical innovations, team contracting, and the experience of front-ranking collectives.

Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, spoke at the session. Taking part in the work of the collegium were: Comrade Dmitriyev, chief of the department at the CPSU Central Committee; USSR ministers; responsible workers in the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the Gosplan and Gosstroi of the USSR and in the Gosplan and Gosstroy committees of the union republics.

Leaders Attend Safety Conference

PM070743 Moscow TRUD in Russian 1 Apr 83 p 2

[Unattributed Report: "All-Union Conference"]

[Text] Voroshilovgrad Oblast [no date given] -- An all-union conference of leading workers and specialists of industrial enterprises and scientific research, experimental design and planning organizations of the USSR Ministries of Mineral Fertilizer Production and the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry has taken place in Severodonetsk. The conference discussed measures for preventing accidents and ensuring work safety in these sectors' enterprises. P.B. Katsuba, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers' State Committee for Supervision of Safe Working Practices in Industry and for Mine Supervision, delivered a report.

L.A. Kostandov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; A.P. Biryukova, AUCCTU secretary; USSR Ministers V.S. Fedorov, A.G. Petrishchev, and V.V. Listov; G.F. Sukhoruchenkova, chairman of the Chemical and Petrochemical Workers' Trade Union Central Committee; workers of the USSR MVD Main Fire Protection Administration and the USSR Procuracy as well as specialists of a number of enterprises and organizations spoke at the conference.

The conference determined ways of raising executive discipline in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum, improving labor conditions, and creating conditions for preventing accidents and injuries.

Leaders Sign Architect's Obituary

PM041235 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 83 p 4

[Obituary of Sergey Borisovich Speranskiy]

[Excerpts] Sergey Borisovich Speranskiy, one of the country's leading architects, USSR people's architect, full member of the USSR Academy of Artists, USSR Lenin and State Prizewinner and CPSU member, has died.

S.B. Speranskiy was born in 1914. His entire conscious life and creative activity are inseparable from Leningrad.

G.V. Romanov, P.N. Demichev, V.I. Dolgikh, M.S. Solomentsev, I.T. Novikov, I.N. Dmitriyev, Yu. F. Solovyev, L.N. Zaykov, R.S. Bobovinkov, V.Ya. Khodryev, A.T. Polyanskiy, N.V. Tomskiy, N.A. Ponomarev, A.D. Dmitriyev, V.M. Kapustin, N.K. Laychukovskiy, G.N. Fomin, L.A. Koykolaynen, Yu.A. Shibayev, N.I. Popov, Yu.S. Asafyev, G.I. Barinova, A.G. Rochegov, Yu.P. Gnedovskiy, G.C. Ilinskiy, A.V. Ryabushin, N.V. Baranov, B.R. Rubanenko, I.I. Fomin, M.K. Anikushin, G.N. Buldakov, B.P. Usanov, and A.F. Antonov.

Aliyev Speaks at Education Meeting

LD292359 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 29 Mar 83

[Text] There was an extended meeting in Moscow today of the collegium of the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education. It discussed tasks of further improving the quality of training specialists in higher and secondary special educational establishments, and the fuller use of the scientific potential of higher education in the intensification of social production arising from the decisions of the November 1982 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the speech by Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the plenum.

The collegium mapped out ways for further raising the social and economic effectiveness of higher and secondary specialized education, and for intensifying the role of VUZes and technical colleges in the acceleration of scientific-technical progress. Comrade Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, spoke at the meeting.

Chernenko Book Published

LD042119 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 4 Apr 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The Politicheskaya Literatura Publishing House has published a book by Comrade Chernenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and CPSU Central Committee secretary, under the title "Asserting the Leninist Style in Party Work." [video shows book cover and pages] The book contains works from the period 1981-1982.

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The author makes a profound analysis of some very important political and social processes taking place in our society, expounds some fundamental issues in the work of the CPSU, and shows the creative and constructive work of the party and the Soviet people toward implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress. Considerable space in the book is given to a critique of the bourgeois concept of the rights and freedom of the individual, and a comparison of the socialist and the bourgeois way of life. The book is addressed to a wide circle of party, administrative, and economic workers and activists.

Exhibition Opening Draws Demichev

PM051539 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 83 p 4

[Report by unnamed TASS correspondent: "School of Craftsmanship"]

[Excerpts] Moscow -- The Academy of Arts, whose 225th anniversary is currently being celebrated, has made an outstanding contribution to the treasure house of national culture. An exhibition which opened 4 April in Moscow's Central Exhibition Hall is devoted to this portentous date. It is the first in a series of jubilee exhibitions which will acquaint viewers with the activities of this remarkable school of craftsmanship and center of artistic thought.

P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Minister of Culture, attended the exhibition's opening.

Gapurov Visits Cooperative Meeting

GF051840 [Editorial Report] Ashkhabad Domestic Service in Russian at 1545 GMT on 5 April carries a poorly heard report on a meeting of the Turkmen Consumer Cooperatives Union held in Ashkhabad today. The radio states that the meeting discussed the work of the republic's consumer cooperatives in light of the decisions of the May and November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenums and the demands of the party for the strengthening of discipline and fulfillment of the Food Program.

The radio states that Comrade Gapurov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee, and Comrades Annaorazov and Makarkin, members of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, visited the meeting. The radio states that the chairman of the board of the Turkmen Consumer Cooperatives Union gave a report.

The radio says that the participants in the meeting took a decision aimed at concentrating the activity of the consumer cooperatives for the development of the agro-industrial complex, for the organization of trade and food services, for the further development of processing of agricultural products and production of consumer goods, and for the active participation in verifying the USSR Food Program and in promoting the social and living condition of the farm workers.

Grishin Attends Award Ceremony

LD300229 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 29 Mar 83

[Text] The Challenge Red Banner of the RSFSR Council of Ministers and AUCCTU was presented today at a meeting of the party, administrative, trade union, and Komsomol aktiv together with representatives of the working collectives of Moscow.

The capital earned the high award for best performance in providing amenities in the second half of 1982. The banner was presented by Comrade Orlov, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of ministers. The participants in the meeting made concrete proposals aimed at successfully implementing plans for providing amenities in the city. Taking part in the work of the meeting was Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom.

Kuznetsov Presents Awards

LD062106 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Comrade Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented awards of the Soviet Union to a group of comrades in the Kremlin today.

Professor Vinogradov, rector of the Academician Gubkin Petrochemical and Gas Industry Institute in Moscow; and Karaveyev, the USSR Minister of Construction, were awarded Orders of Lenin and the Hammer and Sickle gold medals of Hero of Socialist Labor.

The Order of Lenin was conferred on Yerminev, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; Karpova and Lykova, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; the writer Mikhalkov; Marshal of Aviation Pokryshkin; and Fedorov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences.

Golubev, editor-in-chief of SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA received the Order of the October Revolution.

Orders of the Red Labor Banner and of Friendship Among Peoples were also presented.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government, Comrade Kuznetsov cordially congratulated the recipients of the orders on their distinguished awards from the homeland and wished them fresh successes in their work for the good of the socialist fatherland.

The recipients expressed deep gratitude for the high appraisal of their work and gave the assurance that they will devote all their energy, know-how and experience to the fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee.

Kunayev Attends Kazakh Meeting

LD071233 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Today in Alma Ata, at the session of the annual general meeting of the Kazakh SSR's Academy of Sciences, the best work of the year was presented in the fields of metallurgy, high energy physics, mechanics calculating, and applied mathematics. The new Komsomolskiy wheat strain met with a high appraisal. It is notable for its high resistance to winter conditions and high harvest yield capacities, relative to the zonally graded strains. It is planned to open a number of new scientific establishments.

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At the same time the session noted that economic efficiency and the practical conduct of research are still inadequate. Kazakh scientists face the task of resolving such pressing problems as the comprehensive exploitation of mineral wealth, the setting up of waste-free and power-saving production technologies, the further working out of the problems of improving the efficiency of ideological work in conditions of mature socialism.

Comrade Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee took part in the work of the session.

Rashidov Attends Obkom Plenum

GF031702 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 22 Mar 83 p 1

[Excerpts] The tasks of the oblast party organization for fulfilling the decisions of the ninth plenum of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee and measures for further developing livestock production in the oblast through 1983-85 in light of the decisions of the May and November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenums were discussed during a Khorezm Obkom plenum held yesterday. The Obkom First Secretary M. Khudaybergenov presented a report.

Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee, delivered an important speech at the plenum.

The plenum adopted measures for further developing livestock production in the oblast through 1983-85 in light of the decisions of the May and November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenums and the ninth plenum of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee. During the third year of the 5-year plan the oblast's livestock breeders are required to produce 12,900 tons of meat, 67,300 tons of milk, and 85 million eggs. By the end of the 5-year plan period the production of meat in all the categories of economic sectors will be increased by 1.5 times, milk production by 1.4 times, and eggs production by 1.6 times.

Rashidov Attends Uzbekistan Meeting

LD080940 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Text] Questions concerning improving all forms of transport were discussed today in Tashkent at a meeting of the party-economic aktiv of Uzbekistan. Attention was concentrated on unresolved problems. The participants in the meeting noted a certain amount of progress and emphasized that the work of the transport services did not fully match the present demands. Central Asian railway cars still spend long periods idling. The capacities of automobile enterprises are not fully utilized. Measures were mapped out to overcome these shortcomings.

Taking part in the work of the conference was Comrade Rashidov, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central committee.

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Romanov Cited in PRAVDA

PM291109 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 83 First Edition p 2

["To the PRAVDA Editorial Office" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Please convey through your newspaper cordial gratitude to party, Soviet and public organizations, collectives of enterprises and institutions, and all comrades for the warm congratulations and good wishes on my 60th birthday and the conferment of the title Hero of Socialist Labor.

G. Romanov

Romanov Attends Obkom Plenum

LD050952 Leningrad Domestic Service in Russian 0530 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Excerpts] A plenum of the Leningrad Obkom was held in Smolnyy yesterday. In accordance with the tradition of bringing the successive stages of work to the notice of the Communists, an information report on the work of the obkom done in connection with the implementation of the decision of the 25th conference of the Leningrad Oblast party organization in the light of the requirements of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee was submitted for the plenum's consideration.

Grigoriy Vasilyevich Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, addressed the plenum.

The plenum approved the information report of the Leningrad Obkom, which will be discussed in all sections of the Leningrad party organization.

Organizational questions were discussed. Comrade Kapustin was relieved of his duties as member of the Bureau and secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, in connection with his taking up a post of an economic nature. Comrade Popov was elected member of the Bureau and secretary of the Leningrad Obkom; he previously worked as chief of the construction department of the obkom.

Comrade Rozhnov was relieved of his duties as chief of the transport and communication department of the obkom, in connection with his taking up another post. Comrade Morozov was confirmed as chief of the transport and communication department of the obkom; he previously worked as deputy chief of this department.

Comrade Kozlov was relieved of his duties as chief of the administrative organs department of the Obkom, in connection with his taking up another post. Comrade Voshchinin was confirmed as chief of the administrative organs department of the obkom; he previously worked as chief of the department of the administrative and financial organs of the Leningrad Gorkom.

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Grigoriy Vasilyevich Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom said that the improvement of the organization of production, the perfection of management, and the working out of the correct structure of subdivision is an important reserve.

Shcherbitskiy Participates in Presidium Session

AU011445 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0230 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] A routine session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium was held in Kiev on 31 March chaired by Vatchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman. The item on the agenda was the implementation of the 15 March 1983 decision of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the work performed by Ukrainian soviets of people's deputies to check the activity of subordinated organs. Having taken into account the great importance of this decision for further invigorating the activity of the republic's soviets in exercising their constitutional authority, the presidium endorsed measures for accomplishing the tasks set for them. A number of other issues were also discussed.

The session was addressed by members of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium and leaders of a number of the republic's ministries and departments.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, participated in the discussion on the agenda item.

Shevardnadze Participates in Unveiling

LD052043 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Apr 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A memorial to Vladimir Ilich Lenin was unveiled in Tbilisi today. The 5-meter sculptured composition in red granite depicts Vladimir Ilich Lenin at Razliv. Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate-member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia, took part in the unveiling ceremony, as well as the creators of the monument, Sculptors Meritorious Artist of the Georgian SSR (Kipiani Pupkhadze) and Meritorious Architect of the Republic (Abramishvili). [camera provides shots of Shevardnadze attending the unveiling ceremony]

Shevardnadze Visits Military Exhibition

PM221343 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 24 Feb 83 p 1

[GRUZINFORM report: "The Symbols of Glory -- Witnesses of Victories"]

[Excerpts] The brilliant military glory of the Russian and Soviet Army illuminates the exhibition of combat relics which opened 23 February at the military history museum of the Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District. Over 400 exhibits, brought here from Moscow on loan from the Order of Lenin State History Museum, tell of events linked with the heroic history of many generations of the fatherland's defenders.

The opening of the exhibition was attended by Comrades E.A. Shevardnadze, G.A. Andronikashvili, G.D. Gabuniya, P.G. Gilashvili, D.L. Kartvelishvili, G.V. Kolbin, O.F. Kulishev, D.I. Patiashvili, T.V. Rostiashvili, S.Ye. Khabeishvili, O.Ye. Cherkeziya, N.A. Chitanava, Z.A. Chkheidze, and T.I. Mosashvili.

The guests heard introductory remarks from Lieutenant General A.I. Shirinkin, member of the Military Council and chief of the Political Directorate of the Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District, and professor K.G. Levykin.

Shevardnadze Delivers Economic Report

LD310245 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] A meeting of the party-economic aktiv of Georgia today discussed the tasks of the republic's party organization in increasing the production of consumer goods, extending their range, and improving their quality arising out of the decisions of the November plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, who delivered a report, and other participants in the meeting noted that an example of initiative is being shown by the workers of the town of Poti and Zavodskoy district of Tbilisi where production has been set up of more than 10 types of consumer goods in a short period.

Concrete measures are also being taken by other areas of the republic. In all last year R3.5 billion worth of consumer goods were produced. However existing potentials, noted those who spoke, are still being poorly used. Many goods do not meet requirements in terms of quality and the range is not wide enough. Around one-third of enterprises do not turn out consumer goods at all. In this connection particular attention was drawn to the important role of group a producer goods enterprises in increasing the production of everyday goods. A broad program of measures was mapped out for the accelerated development of consumer goods output.

Sizov Addresses Seminar

PM291149 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 83 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed Report: "Cadre Training"]

[Text] A seminar of auditing commission chairmen of the union republic communist parties and kray and oblast party organizations has ended its work at the CPSU Central Committee. A report was delivered at the seminar by G.F. Sizov, chairman of the CPSU Central auditing Commission.

Those attending the seminar heard lectures and reports on the party's development and the growth of its leading role in the building of communism; the tasks of ideological work at the present stage; topical questions of the country's economic and social development in the light of the decisions of the 26th party congress and the November (1982) CPSU Central Committee plenum; the USSR Food Program for the period through 1990 and measures for its implementation; and the improvement of control over the implementation of the party budget and the work of party organ publishing houses.

LEADERS DISMISSED; NEW APPOINTMENTS MADE

Georgian Komsomol Chief

PM060819 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Apr 83 p 1

[Report by KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA correspondent N. Kvizhinadze]

[Text] Tbilisi [no date given] -- A plenum of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee, which examined organizational matters, was held yesterday.

The plenum relieved I. Ordzhonokidze from his duties as first secretary and member of the Bureau of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee in connection with his election as secretary of the all-union Komsomol Central Committee. V. Lordkipanidze, acting second secretary of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee, was elected first secretary of the Georgian Komsomol Central Committee.

G.V. Kolbin, second secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee addressed the plenum.

Georgian Agricultural, Broadcasting Leaders

PM051333 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 27 Mar 83 p 2

[Gruzinform "Chronicle" report]

[Text] The Georgian SSR Council of Ministers has appointed:

Comrade V.V. Gurgenshvili deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Agricultural Production, relieving him of his duties as Georgian SSR Deputy Minister of land reclamation and water resources;

Comrade Z.G. Dzhincharadze deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Agricultural Production, relieving him of his duties as Georgian SSR deputy minister of agriculture;

Comrade R.Sh. Kakuliya deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Agricultural Production, relieving him of his duties as Georgian SSR Deputy minister of Agriculture;

Comrade V.D. Kozayev deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Agricultural Production, relieving him of his duties as deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture;

Comrade A.I. Sekhniashvili deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Agricultural Production, relieving him of his duties as deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture;

Comrade M.I. Tevdorashvili deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Agricultural Production, relieving him of his duties as first deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture;

Comrade T.V. Chikvaizde deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Agricultural Production, relieving him of his duties as Georgian SSR deputy minister of agriculture;

Comrade N.A. Chkoniya deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Agricultural Production, relieving him of his duties as deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture;

Comrade S.S. Rukhadze Georgian SSR deputy minister of the fruit and vegetable industry, relieving him of his duties as Georgian SSR deputy minister of agriculture;

Comrade E.D. Iberi deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting.

CORRECTIONS, ADDITIONS TO PONOMAREV ON MARX

Corrections to Report

The following corrections pertain to the item entitled "PRAVDA Carries Ponomarev's Report on Marx" published in the 1 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on pages R 2-14:

Page R 3, antepenultimate paragraph, line four reads: ...of proletarian ideology with brilliant perspicacity and in a form of astonishing force of influence and beauty. The creation of... (supplying additional passage);

Page R 7, penultimate paragraph, line two reads: ...primarily the creation of a state of a fundamentally...(omitting "a stage of");

Page R 14, paragraph three, line three reads: ...embodiment of principle-mindedness, scientific conscientiousness, honor and...(adding "scientific").

Comparison of Ponomarev Report

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 31 March Second Edition on pages 1 and 2 carries a report on a report delivered by B.N. Ponomarev at a 30 March Moscow meeting commemorating Karl Marx. The PRAVDA Second Edition has been compared with the PRAVDA First Edition of 31 March, published in the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on pages R 2-14, and reveals the following variation:

Page R 11, last paragraph, line two reads: ...taken over by Marxism-Leninism. Soviet peace policy... (adding "Leninism").

PRAVDA VIEWS PROGRESS ON EXPORT GAS PIPELINE

PM080809 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Apr 83 First Edition p 2

[Special Correspondent G. Yastrebtsov report under the rubric "Site of Achievements":
"Rays from Urengoy"]

[Excerpts] Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline route -- it is spring in the Carpathians. Purple crocuses are in flower in the clearings. The streams are filling with ice-cold water. The blue sky of April can be glimpsed more and more frequently through gaps in the clouds above the cliffs.

From the height of the Uklinskiy Pass there is a good view of the valley where the Latoritsa flows, rapid and turbulent at this time of year. That is where the route of the ultralong-distance gas pipeline runs. A trench stretches through a forest clearing along the muddy slope; a heavy pipelayer carrying a pipe horizontally moves slowly upward; the pale blue flames of welding equipment glitter.

The scale of the construction site is unparalleled. Just looking at the map you sense the breathtaking immensity of the distance between Urengoy and Uzhgorod. And a route 4,451 km long is not bed of roses. It runs through permafrost and marshes. In the construction workers' path are more than 2,000 km of forest, 545 mountains, in the Urals and the Carpathians, 26 big rivers and hundreds of small ones....

But this is not the first time that collectives of the Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises have had to lay gas pipelines from the Tyumen north. The plan for the current 5-year plan provides for the construction of five major pipelines from West Siberia to the center, as well as the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod export gas pipeline, one strand of which will carry 32 billion cubic meters of natural gas a year.

Developed industry cannot do without natural gas. We now use it to smelt more than 90 percent of all our steel and pig iron and to produce 60 percent of our cement and much other output. That is why the extraction of gas and its transportation over long distances are an important economic task. In the 5-year plan the volume of work to be carried out on gas pipeline construction exceeds that achieved in the previous 15 years.

"For the first time in the world," A.P. Veselyev, deputy minister of the construction of petroleum and gas industry enterprises, says, "a system of transcontinental main gas pipelines is being constructed within a so-called single engineering corridor. This makes it possible to concentrate forces and resources for the construction workers, carry out the task continuously, by stages, utilize the most efficient techniques and exclude or considerably reduce losses on rebasing people and machinery. Suffice it to say that one in four main pipelines can be laid purely in the time saved on rebasings."

The multistrand [mnogonitochnaya] system of superpipelines offers the opportunity to make extensive use of gas pumping devices with a capacity of 16,000 and 25,000 kilowatts with full thrust pumps at compressor stations. As a result the labor-intensiveness of the construction of the stations is reduced by more than 60 percent and requirements for fittings, thick-walled pipes, and coupling pieces are reduced by 75 percent.

The general plans for compressor stations and the whole range of ancillary production facilities are standardized.

This makes it possible to go over to the progressive modular method of manufacture and installation of manufacturing equipment, and the erection of buildings from lightweight structures with the maximum degree of prefabrication...

Whereas in the last 5-year plan 2 years were allotted for laying an underground pipeline from West Siberia to the center, in this 5-year plan the schedules are much tighter. Nonetheless the intensive program for the construction of Urengoy's "rays" is proceeding successfully. As is known, the first, from Urengoy to Gryazovets and Moscow, was commissioned ahead of schedule in 1981 and reached design capacity in the same year. The second main pipeline, from Urengoy to Petrovsk, was also built ahead of schedule and reached its planned productivity last year. In 1982 the construction workers, while completing work on the Urengoy-Novopskov line, embarked at the same time on laying the longest "ray," from Urengoy to Pomary and Uzhgorod.

From 15 July 1982 we have been ahead of time on this route. According to the schedule, 1,050 km of pipes were to be laid by 1 January. In fact 1,850 km were laid. The rate is really impressive, particularly in view of the notorious American sanctions, which, according to their organizers' plans, were to "put a spoke in the wheel" for us.

The sanction did not yield the desired results. Our country's industry, as life has shown, is capable of providing all that is needed for gas pipelines. Hundreds of enterprises under various departments are fulfilling the construction workers' urgent orders. For instance, plans under the Ministry of the Aviation Industry and the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building have produced the first consignment of gas pumping units on the basis of a 16,000-kilowatt aircraft engine, while enterprises under the Ministry of Power Machine Building have embarked on the commercial production of 25,000-kilowatt units.

On the route of the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline itself, high speed and quality are achieved above all through the introduction of scientific and technical innovations and leading experience, the increase in the power-worker ratio, and the improvement of the economic mechanism. In particular, the organizational structure has been improved: Autonomous financing main administrations have been created, and trusts have become comprehensive. Not only consolidated technological flow systems, but also specialized mobile mechanized columns have proved their worth on the line. Modular construction has begun to be used more widely here.

The daily rate of pipe-laying on the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod route reached 24 km in March. In 274 days some 3,600 km of pipes have been laid. For comparison: The construction of the line section of the Urengoy-Novopskov gas pipeline, 3,346 km long, took 365 days. The 100km-a-year mark, which was regarded as a record only recently, has now become normal for many [individual] collectives.

Not only Soviet construction workers, but also envoys from the GDR and Poland are now working on the route. We visited the Transcarpathian settlement of Volovets, where German construction workers who arrived here 9 months ago are building apartment blocks. In that short space of time our friends from the GDR have commissioned a five-story apartment block ahead of schedule and are now erecting another building across the road from it. Schools with places for 540 pupils and a sports hall, a children's combine, a new hospital and a general clinic will soon grow up in the settlement.

A few kilometers from Volovets, at the top of the mountain pass, a compressor station is being erected -- the last on the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod route. Work is proceeding efficiently and rhythmically. More and more equipment arrives at the construction site every day.

Polish teams from the "Energopol" General Directorate for the Construction of Hydroengineering structures and power pipelines are settling down in the region of the settlement of Seredneye. They are entrusted with a 38-km sector of the route.

Through their joint efforts the construction workers from socialist countries are bringing the day of the pipeline's startup nearer. As planned, Siberian gas will flow through it in the first quarter of 1984. More than 120 km of the gas pipeline have already been tested. Another 1,000 km of the route in Tyumen, Sverdlovsk, Gorkiy, Ryazan, and other oblasts have been prepared for tests.

It is now particularly important not to slacken the pace of work, to proceed energetically not only on the gas pipeline itself, but at compressor stations and other facilities on the route and to prevent laggardness in supplying the construction site fully with equipment.

...The laying of the export gas pipeline is in fullswing, and the first few dozen kilometers of the next ultralong-distance pipeline, the No 1 Urengoy-Center pipeline, are completed. The experience of speedy construction and the mighty technical potential which our industry possesses inspire confidence that the next ray from that bright Siberian star, Urengoy, will soon bring the warmth of the underground north to the country's cities and villages.

ECONOMIST ON JOB, MANPOWER CORRELATION

PM061523 [Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian 2 April 1983 carries on page 2 a 2,500-word article by I. Malmygin, senior scientific collaborator at the USSR Gosplan's Economic Scientific Research Institute, under the rubric "Measure of Labor, Measure of Consumption," entitled: "How Many Jobs Are Necessary?"

The author criticizes the existing practice of manipulating figures so that the managers can have broader scope for paying higher remuneration to workers in order to prevent them from leaving and thereby creating labor shortage in their enterprise. Thus, Malmygin says that at times the difference in earnings between the conscientious worker and the "average man" can be merely 20 rubles or so. All this, in the author's view, stems from the managers' concern to retain their labor force at all costs.

He then describes at length the measures proposed by the plan, to be introduced from 1984, which envisages a balancing of the growth in the number of jobs with manpower resources, stressing that enterprises have "quite a few jobs" which could be eliminated without adverse effect.

In conclusion Malmygin says that the proper correlation between jobs and available manpower would eliminate the problem of the "unearned ruble" and this should be the task of all organs concerned.

BRIEFS

CASPIAN SEA OIL RIG -- The shelf-2 floating oil rig is drilling its first well in the Caspian Sea off Baku today to depths of 165 meters. Drilling to the planned depth of 4,500 meters will be carried out even in stormy weather, thanks to special capacitors which neutralize waves and winds up to force 6. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 5 Apr 83 LD]

COSMOS-1450 SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED 6 APRIL

LD070623 Moscow TASS in English 0617 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 7 TASS -- The Soviet Union launched Wednesday an artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1450, to continue exploration of outer space.

The satellite has been placed in orbit with the following parameters: the initial period of revolution -- 94,7 minutes; maximum distance from the earth's surface -- 515 kilometres; minimum -- 474 kilometres; inclination of the orbit -- 65.9 degrees. The onboard equipment is functioning normally.

SCIENTIST DISCUSSES SIBERIAN RIVER DIVERSION

PM071453 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[Article by USSR Academy of Sciences Corresponding member A. Babayev under the rubric "Science and Technology: Vistas of the 21st Century": "The Desert: Fears and Hopes"]

[Excerpt] The experience of the opening up of the deserts of Central Asia and, in particular, Turkmenistan -- the southernmost Soviet republic -- is very remarkable. Some 85 percent of the territory there is desert. Turkmenistan's climate possesses unique thermal resources but the republic is extremely short of local water supplies. The construction of the Karakum Canal which draws water from the Amudarya River was the turning point in the region's economic development. The 1,100-km V.I. Lenin Irrigation Canal has now made it possible to bring life to over 400,000 hectares of land. But there is still a water shortage. According to the experts' most optimistic predictions, irrigation will help to open up only 15 percent of the desert lands which cover over 250 million hectares in the republics of Central Asia and Kazakhstan.

I should immediately point out that one should not devise optimistic plans for turning the Karakum and Kyzylkum Deserts and the Ustyurt Plateau into a flourishing garden. There is insufficient water for that now. But in the future?

Diverting part of the waters of Siberia's rivers to the south of the country will make it possible to radically resolve this problem of vital importance for all Central Asian republics. Given the present level of development of the country's technology I can see no insuperable obstacles to such long-distance diversion. True, the West Siberian relief is such that the water would have to be taken uphill and that is costly. But the expenditure would pay for itself. In return the local lands, in addition to valuable grades of cotton, would give an abundance of grapes, water melons, melons, oranges, pomegranates, and other southern fruits.

Many scientists are expressing fears that removing a considerable proportion of the water resources from Siberia and supplying abundant water to the Central Asian deserts will upset the ecological balance both in the north and the south. Well, the fears are justified: The reckless use of water can lead to the salination and swamping of soils and other unpleasant consequences. Supplying a large quantity of water to the desert is absolutely contraindicated. Thus the plans being formulated propose using only a part of the water of Siberia's rivers. The implementation of this vast scheme is a 21st century affair. Up to the year 2000, science will be occupied simply in making a comprehensive and detailed study of it.